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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE South Lancashire election has been the great domestic topic of the week. Why Mr. Cheetham was beaten, as it were, upon his own dunghill, is a fertile subject of conjecture and an inexhaustible bone of contention. The mere fact that the professions of the two candidates were so much alike, is not a very logical reason to assign why one of them was preferred to the other. But though the *Times* does not seem to see the "bull" involved in such an argument, which is, in fact, exactly equivalent to the old Hibernicism that "one man is as good as another, and rather better," yet it relieves us from the necessity of accepting so singular a solution, by pointing out that, whatever the two men might say, it was very well known that the one would vote steadily for Lord Palmerston, and the other as steadily for Lord Derby. Unless, therefore, there is no difference at all between the Whig and Tory parties, the mere assumption of neutrality by the two candidates explains nothing. However, it is absurd to look to the points in which two men resemble each other to discover why one of them is the favourite. There must be a difference somewhere, and the difference in this case was that Mr. Cheetham represented a cause and a party which has lately been too much thrust down our throats, and Mr. Turner did not. The result proves, not that the men of South Lancashire pre-



CHARLES XV., KING OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY M. FRANK.)

fer Lord Derby to Lord Palmerston or Lord Palmerston to Lord Derby, but that they are tired of Mr. John Bright. That is the true explanation, though there is probably something also in the statement of the *Times* that a large number of people who have been accustomed to call themselves Liberals have got all they really want to get out of Liberalism, and will put themselves to no trouble in support of it. Whether the weariness of Mr. Bright which is said to prevail largely all over Lancashire be a laudable feeling or not, we do not pretend to say. It may simply be the vulgar impatience of hearing Aristides called Just; it may also be the natural reaction against a man who has ridden his hobby to death, and will thrust it upon people when they are thinking about other things. Just at the present moment the British people side rather with Moloch than with Belial. Their "sentence" is not exactly "for open war," but their sympathies are more warlike than peaceful. The volunteers, and the Warrior, and Bull Run occupy much more of their attention than is at all agreeable to Mr. Bright. He finds himself like Jonathan Oldbuck in Edinburgh during the war fever of fifty years ago. Swords, rifles, and uniforms have usurped the place occupied in the affections of the Lancastrians by mills, looms, and steam-engines. Mr. Bright has become unpopular, and therefore Mr. Cheetham has been beaten.



REVIEW AT ALDERSHOT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING OF SWEDEN.—FROM A SKETCH BY CAPTAIN H. J. WILKINSON 9TH REGIMENT.

It is, unfortunately, becoming daily more probable that this new-born war spirit of ours may find fresh matter to feed upon ere long in the east of Europe. Hungary deliberately refuses the kind of constitutional government which the Emperor of Austria proffers to her, and the Emperor as steadily adheres to what, no doubt, he sincerely believes is a politic and necessary measure. It is the old story. Hungary refuses to bend her neck to the yoke of centralisation; Austria desires to amalgamate and consolidate her empire. Both are right from one point of view, and both are wrong from another. Theoretically, no doubt, the Emperor has a clear case. He is only following out, after all, the policy of Joseph II., who was considered to be dangerously liberal. He is only doing what we ourselves have done in Ireland and Scotland; and it can scarcely be doubted that his policy, if worked out, would confer great benefits on all parties. But, unfortunately, another question steps in between the Emperor and the realisation of these projects. We do not care, say the Hungarians, to discuss the utility of the proposed changes. The Emperor has first to prove that he has any right to make them. His assumption of that right is, in our opinion, far more prejudicial to the interests of Hungary than any ill which can be traced to the provincial character of her Constitution. We confess that, to a great extent, we sympathise with Hungary. However beneficial the Emperor's policy might be, to submit to it on the terms proposed would be to imitate the conduct of Esau. Hungary claims to be an independent nation; and the parallel to her connection with Austria is not so much the connection of Ireland with Great Britain as of Hanover. She clings to this right all the more because Austria persists in ignoring it. It is possible that she might have been persuaded to surrender it; but she will not permit it to be violated. We were obliged to get a majority in the Scotch and Irish Parliaments before our union with these countries. If the Emperor went wisely to work he might possibly do the same thing in Hungary; but otherwise he will not only fail in securing the submission of his subjects, but he will also lose the sympathy of foreign nations, which his good intentions and timely reforms were beginning to conciliate.

THE KING OF SWEDEN.

THE Sovereign of one of the oldest existing kingdoms has paid us a visit, and been received with such honour as is due to the King of a nation which has held its own in Europe through difficulties which required patriotism and courage.

Although Charles XV. is the King of a nation the history of whose Government is so ancient as to be almost entirely lost in the mists of antiquity, he himself dates his family heritage but from yesterday, a fact all the more honourable when it is considered that he derives it from the universal will of the people whom he governs, and from no machination of statecraft or force of conquest. In 1808 Gustavus IV. was "King of Sweden and Norway, of the Goths and the Wends;" and the Russians, whose greed for territory nothing seems to ameliorate, made an attack upon the Finland provinces belonging to Sweden. The Swedes, however, fought bravely enough to check the advance of the aggressors, although they could not altogether prevent it; and, England joining with them in the principle upon which they defended themselves, Sir John Moore occupied Gottenburg with a force of 10,000 men. The British Ministry, however, recalled the expedition for the purpose of concentrating all their available forces in the Peninsula against Napoleon, and, the Russians returning to the attack, the coveted territory was at length ceded to the Czar.

Meanwhile the Swedes, whose wrath at the partition of their country was only equalled by the consternation with which they anticipated still further aggression, turned their reproaches against the Government of Gustavus, which, although not capable of such exertions as the serious crisis of the time demanded, cannot be said to have acted in any extraordinarily venal or unpatriotic spirit. Popular indignation was roused, however, and demanded no less a satisfaction than the dismissal of the King himself. In a little more than a year after the outbreak of the war, Gustavus was dethroned by a determined but by no means violent rebellion, which partook so much of the nature of a popular sentiment that the theatres were not even closed on the night of the abdication. The crown thus left unappropriated was first offered to the Duke of Gloucester, who, however, declined the honour from motives of policy, and the great Napoleon even, for reasons very difficult to determine, except that he had too much work before him at that juncture, escaped the proffered honour. The Duke of Sudermania was elected King, and the States of the kingdom, following up the promptitude and decision which seems to have characterised their proceedings throughout, issued this pithy declaration:—"We abjure by this present act all the fidelity and obedience which we owe to our King, Gustavus IV., hitherto King of Sweden, and we declare both him and his heirs, born or to be born, now and for ever dethroned from the throne and government of Sweden."

The death of the heir presumptive, however, leaving the crown of Sweden still disposable, the Swedish statesmen again turned their regards towards France, and ultimately fixed on Bernadotte, a Marshal of the empire, a renowned soldier, and an able administrator, whose kindness to a body of Swedes who had fallen into his hands disposed the nation favourably towards him. Charles John Bernadotte, Prince of Ponterorvo, was therefore elected Crown Prince of Sweden, and became the founder of the present dynasty, his son Oscar being the only issue of his marriage with Désirée Clary, daughter of a merchant of Marseilles. Oscar, the father of the present King, was born before the accession of Bernadotte to the throne, and, indeed, accompanied him to take possession of the kingdom. The young Prince afterwards married the daughter of Prince Benignus, Josephine Maximilian Eugénie, the cousin german of Napoleon III.

The present King who succeeded his father, Oscar I., under the title of Charles XV., is now about thirty-five years of age, and, still retaining unmistakable traces of the Bernadotte origin, is both striking and agreeable in appearance. During the two years which he has occupied the throne he has commenced several important reforms, in carrying out which his visit to England will, it is said, materially assist him. He has formed a close political alliance with Denmark, and during the Italian campaign expressed the most ardent wishes for the success of the popular cause.

The King was accompanied on his visit to England by his brother, Prince Oscar, who shared with him the hospitality of her Majesty both at Osborne and at Aldershot, where they paid their last visit previous to taking leave.

PORTO NOVO, AFRICA.—The Gazette contains a copy of a despatch from Mr. M'Glashy, our acting Consul at Lagos, accompanying terms of a treaty concluded by him with the King and chiefs of Porto Novo, which was recently bombarded and burnt by one of her Majesty's ships of war, with the destruction of 2000 of the natives. This treaty stipulates for right of residence and trading in Porto Novo on behalf of British subjects and other legal traders, and fixes the duties (in cowries) on oil and ivory exported. The Consul and the King, in conjunction, are to form a tribunal for the settlement of disputes.

VISIT OF THE KING OF SWEDEN.

THE GRAND REVIEW AT ALDERSHOT.

MILITARY spectacles would seem to be the regular sort of entertainment provided for Royal personages, whosoever they go or whencesoever they come; and there is certainly something fitting in the descendant of Bernadotte and the occupant of the throne of Gustavus Adolphus and Charles XII. taking a lively interest in martial matters. Accordingly his Swedish Majesty, during his brief sojourn among us, besides inspecting our arsenals, dockyards, &c., was treated to a grand review at Aldershot on the 14th instant, as we briefly mentioned last week. We now give an Engraving illustrative of the scene from a sketch furnished by an officer who was present. On the day in question, his Royal Highness the Prince Consort, accompanied by the King of Sweden, Prince Oscar, and his Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Prussia, and attended by a numerous and distinguished suite, arrived by special train at Farnborough at half-past twelve o'clock, and immediately proceeded to the Royal Pavilion at Aldershot. Troops were drawn up to await the arrival of the Royal party, and from the road, as the carriages ascended, the sight was striking. The infantry was drawn up in parallel lines, in rear and on the flanks of which the cavalry and artillery were stationed. A somewhat indefinite background was composed of pontoon-waggons, tumbrils, ammunition-carts, and other vehicular addenda, in charge of the Military Train. The first line of infantry was flanked at one extremity by the Guards, and at the other by the 60th Rifles, and in the centre of the second line the picturesque costume of the 78th Highlanders could be easily distinguished. In all, there were nearly 14,000 men under arms.

The Royal party on reaching the ground was received with a general salute, and, having quitted the carriage for the saddle, rode along the lines, which, as their inspection was concluded, in turn broke up into their component regiments and formed column preparatory to marching past, an operation which commenced as soon as the cavalcade reached the saluting base. The King and the Crown Prince of Denmark were conspicuous among the party by the yellow plumes which waved from their cocked hats; and the Prince of Prussia not less so by the low, square-peaked helmet which forms a portion of the externals of the Prussian army. The force was divided into four brigades—one of cavalry and artillery, and three of infantry, the whole being under the command of General Sir J. Pennefather. First came a battery of Horse Artillery, with the new rifled cannon, no longer bell-mouthed, but straight, deadly tubes, with not an ounce of spare weight about them anywhere. The 5th Dragoon Guards, which led the cavalry brigade, were followed by two troops of the newly-raised 5th Lancers, a regiment, to judge from this contingent, not inferior to any in the service. The 18th Hussars, also showing by their headgear that they owed their origin to the sister country, were further remarkable from the fact that their pouches were suspended in front, appearances being sacrificed to convenience. Two lancer regiments, the 9th and 16th, followed—both doubtless equal in efficiency, but the latter seeming the very model of a light cavalry corps. Next came a large force of Foot Artillery, scarcely distinguishable from the others, for they all possessed the Armstrong gun; the Royal Engineer Train with a stock of pontoons, and the Military Train in charge of equipages, with a rough but useful look about them, brought up the rear of the cavalry brigade. At the head of the first brigade of infantry marched a company of Royal Engineers, armed with rifles having an oval bore, and sighted for a range longer by 200 yards than that of the Enfield weapon. The 2nd battalion of Coldstream Guards followed, and their precision of drill enabled them to triumph even better than their contemporaries over the difficulties attendant on the soft, sandy, slippery soil which all alike were compelled to traverse. But the corps which probably fixed the attention of the Royal visitors most specially was the 10th Foot, whose flagstaff scarcely exhibited a shred of the original colours. Others had honourable scars of a less aggravated character to exhibit, but the 10th literally sailed along "under bare poles." The 20th Foot came next, and were succeeded by the 8th, wearing the new shako, which is of improved shape, and approximates more in its nature to the forage-cap than to the old chimney-pot shako. The 1st battalion of the 60th Rifles, forming the rear of the 1st brigade, went past at a long, swinging step, making two paces do the work of three of the other regiments. The bronzed faces which they acquired in India were perceptible beneath the dust which now began to incrust soldiers and spectators impartially. The 16th and 32nd Regiments headed the next brigade, which also contained the 78th Highlanders, at whom the foreign Sovereigns looked long and curiously. The 2nd battalion of the 25th seemed disposed to make the most of their colours, which are of novel design and not more than half the size of the old ones. A handsome gold crown replaces the unmeaning fish-tail, called by courtesy a spear, with which the staff was formerly tipped. The 3rd brigade consisted of the 20th, 45th, 53rd, and 84th Regiments, with another battalion of Rifles. The 84th illustrated somewhat remarkably the adage about the chances of war, for of one of its colours but a few ribbons remained, while the other was comparatively scatheless. The battalion of Rifles differed widely from its predecessor. The 1st battalion was composed of men of the anti-Crimean standard, bronzed and medalled; the latter was some inches below the average height, and the staple of the corps consisted of growing youths. Coming last in order, they had received "Benjamin's portion" of dust, and their faces consequently differed, if anything for the worse, from the colour of their uniform. The spectators, however, had little leisure to plume themselves on their superiority in this respect, for the Horse Artillery, coming past in a smart gallop, tore up such a cloud of dust that one could distinguish little beyond the outline of the horses and guns. Before the effect of this tornado had subsided the cavalry came past again at a rapid trot. After the review came a sham fight. The cavalry was pushed out without loss of time across the sandy plain, and, before the spectators had well made up their minds to which of the neighbouring hillsides they would betake themselves, the lancers, which formed the supporting cavalry column, were crossing the ridge bounding the extreme range of vision in that direction, the bannerets of their lances, as they went down the other side, fluttering like fleecy clouds above their heads. On reaching a point from which a panoramic view of the field could be gained, it was seen that the force was making rapidly for the Long Valley. The ground, from which its light surface of vegetation has been mown by a succession of Wednesday parades, exhibits for miles a bare surface of white sand, such as might be looked for in the desert or on the seashore, but it is not to be reconciled with previous notions of an inland English county. Across this arid tract the cavalry, enveloped in clouds of dust, took its way, till, at the other edge of the valley, a belt of wood was reached, to clear which of the enemy, known to be in that quarter, it was necessary to send out skirmishers. These had quickly to be reinforced, and, from the rapidity with which the artillery flew to the front and bore its share in the strife, it was evident that the caution of the primary movements had not been ill-bestowed. Without accurate knowledge of a given site, or the assistance of maps accurately prepared, it is impossible to say of any ground that its capabilities have been turned to the best account. The spectators, moreover, were kept at such a distance from the earlier movements that skirmishers looked to them like black dots, the reports of artillery reached only after intervals of some seconds, and, the wind being in a contrary direction, individual rifle-shots were not heard at all. One could see that a scattered black line by degrees became a close red belt, which, after a hot contest, swarmed over a hill, to the right of which eminence lay a valley, across which successive charges, first by light and afterwards by heavy cavalry, took place. A portion of the troops then disappeared behind one of the innumerable sandy knolls which stud the plain. Just at this juncture, when the struggle, which had hitherto been

carried on in dumb show as far as the enemy was concerned, seemed on the point of being decided, a gun from the height known as Caesar's Camp proclaimed that a new foe had succeeded in gaining a very formidable position. The army in the valley immediately changed its tactics. Repeating Napoleon's manoeuvre at Waterloo when he found himself pressed both in face and in flank, the force now showed a double front, each at right angles to the other. A division was left to watch the retreating body, and the remainder of the force prepared to ascend the hill. This they did in the face of a very hot fire, having frequently to halt on the way, form square, and even gain ground by means of cavalry charges, which, as the advance was now straight in the direction of the spectators, they had a capital opportunity of seeing. Some companies of the 60th Rifles seemed bent on acquiring the honours of victory before their comrades could arrive, and pressed up the steep, where their dark green uniforms showed like the trees of a young plantation. The force on the heights now sent down their skirmishers too, and answering puffs of blue smoke from under the chin of the cliff for some minutes retarded the advance. But nothing could stand against the Armstrong gun; and though the enemy tried rapid file-firing, and though the defenders, from their regimental number, and the position which they had taken up, might have excusably called themselves "The Tenth Legion," it seemed that a Caesar was wanting to lead them, and they were obliged to give ground, the guns having been retired some minutes previously. With the capture of the heights terminated the engagement; some volleys were, indeed, delivered on reaching the summit, but the enemy seemed to have lost heart, and made no response.

The sham fight ended at four o'clock, and one of the most interesting features of the spectacle was afforded by the different regiments as they streamed down the sides of the hill towards their respective quarters. The day throughout was bright, but not too warm; the number of spectators sufficient to constitute an assembly worthy of the display, without interfering with each other's opportunities of viewing the proceedings. The troops were in excellent condition, and, as far as could be seen, were ably handled. The garrison at Aldershot may therefore be congratulated on the figure which it made in the eyes of foreign Princes.

The King of Sweden and his brother, Prince Oscar, left this country on their return home on Saturday. The distinguished personages did not travel by the same route. The King, accompanied by his suite, and by Lord Harris, one of her Majesty's Lords in Waiting, went direct from London by the South-Eastern Railway; but Prince Oscar, who holds the highest office in the Swedish marine, travelled by the London, Chatham, and Dover line, in order to make a short stay at Sheerness for the purpose of inspecting its dockyard and the national laboratories it contains.

His Majesty left the Bricklayers' Arms station by a special train of the South-Eastern Railway at a quarter past four o'clock, and arrived at Dover about a quarter past six.

Prince Oscar left the Victoria station, Pimlico, by the ordinary ten a.m. express-train, by which his Royal Highness was conveyed to Sheerness. After satisfying the object of his visit the Prince proceeded on his journey at 2.40 p.m. by special train, and, after a short stay at Canterbury, where his Highness ascended the mound of the Dane John to view the magnificent stretch of scenery it commands, reached Dover at half-past four. Here carriages had been provided, and his Royal Highness on alighting from the train was driven to the Royal Ship Hotel, where he made a brief stay, and then walked on board the John Penn, Captain Matthews. His Royal Highness was shortly afterwards joined by the King, and, immediately his Majesty and suite were on board, the steamer cast off and made for Calais.

A Royal salute from the castle batteries was fired on the arrival and departure of the Royal visitors.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

All Paris was out of doors on Thursday, the 15th, the day of the Emperor's fête, notwithstanding the scorching heat of the weather. Our countrymen and countrywomen were there in vast force, and a rowing-match on the Seine gave an English boat's crew an opportunity of at once distinguishing themselves and astonishing the natives by their skill in handling the oar. Cafés and wine-shops were crowded during the day, and the theatres at night. The Emperor did not honour the festivities with his presence.

General Fanti, who has been sent by King Victor Emmanuel on a special mission to the Emperor of the French, has met with a distinguished reception on the part of his Majesty in the camp at Châlons. He dines at the Imperial table, sleeps under the Imperial roof, and is constantly near the Imperial person. The cordiality of the reception is so ostentatiously displayed that there can no longer be any doubt as to the good understanding between the two Sovereigns. In striking contrast has been the coldness of the welcome accorded to Mgr. Nardi, who arrived in the camp on Saturday with an autograph letter from the Pope.

The Bishop of Poitiers is a warning to French ecclesiastical dignitaries how they venture to quit the domains of theology for those of politics. His recent criticisms on the policy of the Emperor's Government have been followed by a division of his diocese into two parts, and the appointment of a new Bishop to the larger and richer see.

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday contains a letter from the Emperor of the French to the Minister of the Interior authorising the introduction of a project of law in the next Session of the Legislative Chamber for the appropriation of twenty-five millions of francs to complete, within eight years, the system of roads needed for the interior of France. "The rural communes," says the Emperor, "so long neglected, ought to have a large share of the subsidies of the State, for the amelioration of the country is still more useful than the transformation of the cities."

The *Pays* of the 20th says:—"The report published by a Belgian paper that the Sultan would come to Paris and London is unfounded, as is also the rumour that the French Embassy at Rome would be reduced to a Legation."

The *Moniteur* says that it is not true, as stated in the Italian journals, that negotiations for a treaty of commerce between France and Italy are taking place. The Italian Government, it says, is preparing a revision of existing treaties, but the situation of Italy does not permit it to enter into any new ones.

SPAIN.

The crusade against Protestantism in Spain has entered another phase. The spirit of persecution is now directed towards the book-sellers, whose shops and stores are ransacked for prohibited works.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel, attended by his military household, left Turin for Florence on the 14th, to be present at the opening of the National Industrial Exhibition. From Florence the King proceeds to Naples, where he will remain till the opening of Parliament.

At a hunting banquet recently the King proposed a toast in honour of Garibaldi and his companions.

A letter from Turin of the 13th states that the Minister of Marine has entered into a contract with the house of W. H. Webb and Co. of New York, for the construction of two iron-cased frigates, which are to be completed in eighteen months. The greatest activity also prevails in the naval yards at Genoa, Leghorn, and Castellamare. A fine squadron is to be shortly fitted out for the purpose of cruising and surveying the coasts of the kingdom.

A religious ceremony took place on the 15th in the Church of the

Lazarites in honour of the *Fête* Napoléon, and was attended by many French and Italians. The Neapolitans had also made a demonstration in honour of the Emperor's fête.

Di Mosti, Aide-de-Camp to General Cialdini, had arrived at Turin. A rumour that General Cialdini had resigned the civil government of Naples is contradicted. He only wishes to be relieved from that portion of his duties as soon as it can be done consistently with the public interest.

General Cialdini, in reply to an address from the Municipal Council of Naples, said:—"The King desires that concord should exist among all the factions of the Liberal party, which all have the same end in view—viz., the unity of Italy, the maintenance of the dynasty of Savoy, the deliverance of Venice, and the obtaining of Rome as the capital of Italy. All should aid and concur in the pacification of Naples."

It is reported that the Marquis di Villamarina has been appointed Governor of Naples, in place of the Marquis d'Alfitio.

Signori Cantelli and Blasio have resigned, but will remain in office until the Government has provided substitutes.

Several officers of the old Bourbon army have been arrested and conveyed to Genoa, whence they will be at liberty to proceed to any foreign country.

A communication from Naples says:—"Cialdini has succeeded. Brigandage is at its last gasp. By a rapid march he first drove it back on to the mountain fastnesses of Sora, Marano, Pago, and Pietrascina, near Benevento. Then, by a concentric movement, the troops, retracing their steps, surrounded it on all sides and crushed it. The brigands fight like men who have no hope, so that extermination becomes a necessity. The troops are now driving together the remnants, and as soon as 400 or 500 are united in any locality they will be attacked on all sides." The Italian soldiers have taken the village of Ponte Landolfo, in the province of Sannio, and that of Casalduni, in the province of Molise, from the insurgents. News has been received at Naples that a band of brigands were surprised by some French troops in a house on the Pontifical frontiers. One brigand was killed and five taken prisoners. The rest fled into Italian territory. It is believed that Garibaldi will go to Naples on the 7th of September, the anniversary of the day on which he entered that city. The Government is preparing grand fêtes for the occasion.

The *Patrie* of this evening says:—"The English squadron still remains at Naples. It is asserted that the crews of the vessels composing it continue to go on shore by detachments for drill." On this circumstance a correspondent says:—"The fact of 400 marines having been landed from the *Exmouth* at Castellamare to go through movements now assumes a new appearance. The *Dritto* states that they landed to maintain order while the Italian troops and national guard were absent in the pursuit of the brigands. The reflection made by the *Dritto* on the subject is briefly this:—'France protects brigandage; England helps to repress it.'"

A letter from Naples states that on the 12th Vesuvius began to show signs of an eruption. Flames and smoke rose to the height of twenty metres above the crater. An immense crowd assembled on the quays to witness the spectacle. Several slight shocks of earthquake have been felt at the Observatory, and Professor Palmieri thinks they are the forerunners of an eruption.

The subscription at Rome to the Cavour monument continues, notwithstanding the efforts of the police to prevent it.

At Rome, on the occasion of the French National Fête, the Pope gave his solemn benediction. A brilliant fête took place at the French Embassy. The Military Club and the national establishments were illuminated. General Goyon gave a grand dinner. Tranquillity and perfect order prevail at Rome.

An *amende* has been made by the Papal Government to France for the recent insult offered by Mgr. de Mérode to General Goyon, but the former still remains in office. It is understood, however, that the General is not to transact business with him in future.

GERMANY.

The *Augsburg Gazette* says that the Diet has ordered 520 rifled cannon for the arming of the Federal fortresses. The Diet has voted 5,151,977 florins for the armament of these fortresses. Of this sum 2,216,000 are for the purchase of rifled cannon, which are to be placed on the ramparts by the end of the present year.

PRUSSIA.

Preparations for the coronation of the King and Queen of Prussia are being hurried forward. The day chosen for the ceremony is Oct. 18, the anniversary of the battle of Leipzig.

The King of Prussia arrived at Cologne from Mayence on the 17th, and was met at the station by the Prince and Princess Royal, who had arrived from England in the afternoon. His Majesty and their Royal Highnesses rode through the town, which was illuminated, in an open carriage, and were saluted with the most enthusiastic acclamations. His Majesty afterwards made his appearance at the balcony of the palace, when the national hymn was spontaneously sung by the people. Next day the Royal party visited the Ritzhartz Museum and the Fine Arts Exhibition. The King afterwards continued his journey to Ostend, where he intends to remain for three weeks.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

Affairs have seemingly reached a crisis in Hungary. A communication from Pesth of the 21st says:—"Field Marshal Count Haller has arrived in Pesth with the order for the dissolution of the Hungarian Diet. He will, in the quality of Royal Commissioner, dissolve the Diet." The Lower House held a secret sitting on Wednesday to consider their future course, when a resolution to enter an energetic protest against the violation of the Constitution was adopted, on the motion of M. Deak. Baron Vay afterwards entered the room, and was enthusiastically received. The Deputies embraced each other before separating. It is generally thought that the dissolution of the Diet will be the precursor of grave events. The Upper House of the Hungarian Diet has concurred in the declaration passed in the Lower House, on the motion of M. Deak, that the dissolution of the Diet is an illegal act. The Diet would probably be dissolved on Thursday, the 22nd. Much anxiety and excitement prevailed. It had been anticipated that the Emperor would issue an address to the peoples of the empire explaining his views and intentions, but this is now doubted. The latest accounts state:—"A manifesto will not be issued to the peoples of the Austrian empire, neither will an Imperial Message be addressed to the Council of the Empire. The Hungarian Chancellery will address a circular to the Obergespanne, explaining the present position of affairs. The new Hungarian Diet is to be convoked within six months from this time." Count Apponyi had summoned the members of the Upper House by telegraph to assemble on Thursday. In reference to the reports of disagreements between the Cabinet and the Hungarian Chancellery, the following appears in a semi-official paper:—"A perfect harmony of views upon the Hungarian question exists between the Chief of the Ministry and the Hungarian Chancellery."

The collection of taxes in Hungary by military execution has been stopped until the middle of September next.

Telegraphic despatches from Agram state that the Croatian Diet had decided upon making representations to the Emperor requesting the readmission into the Diet of the deputies from the military frontiers and the enlargement of the littoral territory of the Croatian free ports.

POLAND.

The spirit of disaffection so long chronic in Warsaw has now spread into the provinces, from many of which accounts of disturbances are constantly being received.

An important popular demonstration took place at Lublin (Russian Poland) on the 12th inst. The military commander by his energy, however, suppressed the conflict without any more serious consequences than that a certain number of persons were wounded.

Serious disturbances broke out at Kalisch on the 17th, in consequence of the arrest of an apothecary. Crowds of people assembled and insulted the patrols. A great number of women wearing the national colours surrounded the Colonel and demanded the release of the prisoner, which was thereupon granted. The number of people, however, gradually increased, and their attitude became more threatening, until the whole garrison assembled under arms, and threatened to fire on the people. Numerous arrests have been made.

Instructions for the proper carrying out of the provisions of the new electoral law, and an explanation of the manner in which the electoral lists have been compiled, were published at Warsaw on the 19th inst., in reply to complaints from several citizens.

M. Wielopolski has been appointed a Privy Councillor of the first rank and Vice-President of the Council of State. He also retains the two Ministerial portfolios which he already holds. The Emperor, in an autograph letter, has expressed his thanks to M. Wielopolski for the zeal which he has displayed in the public service.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

Kiprisli Pacha has been deprived of his office of Grand Vizier, and will be appointed either Governor of Bagdad or Commissioner of Anatolia. Fuad Pacha will be promoted to a rank equivalent to that of Grand Vizier. Mehemed Djemil Pacha will be Minister for Foreign Affairs. Active French intrigues are being carried on to effect the return of Riza Pacha to the Seraskierat.

The chief of the insurgents in the Herzegovina has requested the intercession of Russia in order to again bring about peace with the Turks. Omer Pacha has approved this proposal, and the Russian and Austrian Embassies at Constantinople have deputed commissioners to proceed to Mostar in order to open negotiations. About 2000 Bosnian and Montenegrin insurgents were preparing to attack Trebigne, and had advanced beyond Niksieh. One thousand Montenegrins had attacked a village on the Turkish frontiers, but were repulsed with loss. Ten Turkish war-steamer, with troops on board, have arrived at Antivari.

The Sultan has given the deputation from Moldavia and Wallachia a very kind reception.

The Duke de Montebello, General Codrington, and General Willisen were expected at Constantinople.

The International Commission has decided in favour of the Porte on the question of the settlement of the boundaries of the mouths of the Danube pending between the Porte and Moldavia.

The Turkish Government is actively progressing with financial reforms, and is making preparations for the establishment of a national bank.

News from Beyrout states that the organisation of native tribunals, a measure prepared by Daoud Pacha, has produced a favourable effect.

A great fire has taken place in the Turkish quarter of the town of Smyrna. The Porte has sent assistance to the inhabitants.

According to news received at Constantinople, the Russians have sustained another defeat from the Circassians.

SERVIA.

Prince Michael opened the Skoupstchina on the 19th. In his speech he announced to the Assembly the preparation of interior legislative measures and the organisation of a national militia. The Prince also spoke of Prince Garatschin's mission to Constantinople, to attain the object of which, he said, nothing would be neglected. With regard to the emigration of Christians from the neighbouring Turkish provinces, the Prince said:—"The Servians, united to the Christians of Turkey by the ties of race and religion, could not remain indifferent to their fate. Servia was therefore open to them. The security of the frontiers of the Principalities and of Turkey is thus assured."

MOROCCO.

The Moors in the neighbourhood of Mazagan are again beginning to display a restive spirit, whilst the Kabyles are threatening Azamor, and have perpetrated many robberies in that locality. Mr. Hay has been on a mission to the Sultan of Morocco, with a view to the settlement of the indemnity due to Spain under the late treaty of peace.

AMERICA.

The news from the army of the Potomac is very scanty, as General McClellan, the new commander in that quarter, appears to be impressed with the necessity of withholding all information of his movements from the press. Indeed, a Washington despatch says that some of the newspapers there, having disregarded the agreement with General McClellan as to the publication of army movements, &c., were to be subjected to stringent rules, as the General was determined to enforce his policy. He was successfully bringing the troops in and around Washington into something like discipline and order. Fears of an attack from the Confederates had not quite disappeared, and the Federal General took the precaution of visiting the out-defences daily. One noteworthy circumstance since the defeat and panic of Bull Run is that the New York papers have ceased to indulge in their tall talk, or to threaten the immediate snuffing out of the rebellion.

Congress finished its special Session on the 6th inst., and adjourned until the first Monday in December. Previous to the adjournment, both Houses passed a bill increasing the pay of the soldiers and sailors by two dollars a month; and the Senate, in executive session, confirmed a large number of appointments in both services. The President approved all the bills which passed both Houses, but yielded a very reluctant assent to the bill providing for the confiscation of property used for rebellious purposes.

It is stated that considerable English gold is in circulation at Richmond, which has been advanced for the new cotton crop.

The new Governor of the State of Missouri had taken possession of the executive mansion at Jefferson city. The returns of the elections thus far show a relative Union majority as large or larger than at the last congressional election.

The State Convention at Wheeling, Virginia, reassembled on the 6th inst. A resolution that it would be unwise to act upon the division of the State was tabled by 39 to 25. A warm contest was expected on this subject, and the Disunionists were thought to be in a majority.

The United States' frigate *St. Lawrence*, when off Charleston on the 1st inst., was fired into by a privateer. The frigate returned a broadside, which sunk the privateer. Five men were drowned, and thirty-six had been sent to Fort Mifflin, below Philadelphia. The vessel was called the *Petrel*, and was formerly in the United States' revenue service. Newborn, in North Carolina, was reported to be the rendezvous of the privateers.

A fight is reported as having occurred at a place called Dag Springs, in Missouri, which is thus described by the *New York Herald*:—"The Union troops in Missouri under General Lyon, on the 2nd inst., had another affair with the rebels, commanded by Ben McCulloch, at a place called Dag Springs, about nineteen miles south-west of Springfield, which resulted in the defeat of the rebels. It appears that it was only the United States' cavalry on the side of General Lyon's command who were engaged, and a small body of 270 of them made a splendid charge on a force of about 4000 rebel infantry, cutting their way through with only the loss of five men. The cavalry are said to have been crossing a ridge of high land, partly inclosed on the east by a valley, and when descending the hill came upon a large force of the enemy's infantry, and, being unable to retreat, they charged and cut their way through. The Lieutenant commanding the cavalry was killed, after killing eight of the rebels. Meantime the enemy appeared in large numbers, moving along the valley; but they were put to flight by the artillery. The rebels retreated southward to a place called McCullough's Stone, on the Fayetteville road. The number of rebels found dead on the field amounted to 49, and some 44 wounded were picked up. General Lyon is said to be strongly

intrenched in close proximity to the enemy; and another battle is expected to take place very soon."

It was reported that the Confederates were concentrated in large force at Fairfax, and were throwing up intrenchments at the favourable points near that place. General Beauregard, in command of the Southern Confederate forces at Manassas Junction, will not, it is said, make any forward movement upon Washington, but content himself with acting purely on the defensive.

General Pillow has issued a proclamation stating that he will drive the Federals from Missouri. He has promised Governor Jackson to send 20,000 Confederates into that State.

Governor Wise and force have retired from Western Virginia, leaving behind them 1000 muskets and several kegs of powder in the hands of the Federals.

The Confederates burned the town of Hampton, near Fortress Monroe, on the 7th inst. Of this affair a despatch from Fortress Monroe of the 8th says:—"Scouts and fugitives yesterday morning brought word of the approach of a large Confederate force at Yorktown. These rumours were confirmed at five p.m. by an intelligent deserter from the rebels, a native of Maine, but a resident of Georgia until impressed into the service, who has furnished us with an account of the expedition. He has been stationed at Yorktown since June 1. On Friday last General M'Guider left Yorktown with a force of 7000 men, including 200 cavalry and eight pieces of artillery. Part of the troops were from Williamsport. On Monday night they encamped at Great Bethel, which had been completely deserted. On Tuesday night they advanced towards Hampton, and at noon yesterday took up a position at the river, some three miles from the town, where the deserter managed to escape. He says the object of the expedition was to draw out our forces, attack Camp Hamilton and Newport News, if practicable, and, at least, to destroy Hampton, and to prevent our using it for winter quarters. Colonel Weber erected a barricade near Hampton, at the end of the bridge, and placed a strong guard at various points this side of the creeks. About midnight M'Guider, with about 500 Confederates, entered the town and immediately fired buildings with torches. The greatest part of the houses were built of wood, and, with a strong south wind, soon produced a terrible conflagration. Several of the whites and negroes were hurried away, to be pressed into the Confederate service. A company of rebels attempted to force the passage of the bridge, but were repulsed with a loss of three killed and six wounded. The fire raged all night."

Messrs. Breckenridge and Vallandigham had been entertained at a banquet in Baltimore; but, according to Northern accounts, the feeling was so strong against them that they were not allowed to address the people assembled outside the Eutan House, where the banquet took place. Several fights occurred in the streets, in which the Secessionists were rudely handled. The crowd dispersed with cheers for the Union and groans for Jeff Davis.

MEXICO.

Mexico continues to be torn by faction; and what is worse—the President, Juárez, seems utterly powerless to assert and maintain his authority to any good purpose. At the last accounts he was left without a Cabinet, and unable to form one; the reactionary—priest—party were growing in numbers and in strength; and on the 25th of June a band of 2000 rebel cavalry, under the command of Marquez, penetrated to the very heart of the city. Here, however, resistance was offered to them, and they decamped in hot haste, after encountering some loss. On their retreat they committed the most barbarous outrages; but next day General Ortega was on their track, and another fight was expected to come off. Meanwhile the Mexican Congress, "fiddling whilst the city was burning," was occupied in discussions of the silliest character—the most important of them being the propriety of abolishing the title of Don as a prefix to gentlemen's names. On the night of the 6th of July Mr. H. Beale, an English merchant, was murdered at his own house, and the greatest alarm prevailed amongst the foreign residents, Marquez having raised the cry of "Death to all foreigners, especially to the French!"

HEALTH OF THE POPE.—A letter from Rome of the 13th inst. says:—"The contingency which has been attached by public opinion to the demise of the reigning Pope, whenever that event may take place—viz., a complete change in the position of the Papacy with regard to its temporal sovereignty, a change which many persons predict will not be thoroughly effected during the life of the present supreme Pontiff—renders the Romans extremely observant of Pio Nono's health, and ready to draw good or bad omens from every fresh symptom according to the colour of their political opinions. On Saturday last his Holiness was again taken ill with dyspepsia, and was too indisposed to give audience to his Ministers, as customary with him on that day. The Pope's chief medical man, Dr. Carpi, being unwell, the palace surgeon, Signor Costantini, was in attendance on his Holiness on Sunday, and did not return to his own residence until yesterday morning at daybreak, and twice in the course of yesterday a ponderous pontifical vehicle drove up to his house to convey him in haste to the presence of his patient, from which it is inferred that the malady this time is somewhat serious."

AUSTRIAN FINANCE.—The *Danube Gazette* of Vienna affirms in very categorical terms, in reply to the *Constitutionnel*, that the Austrian treasury is in a position to meet all demands on it, and has no intention of raising a loan. "But," remarks the *Independence*, "we learn from London that M. Brentano is negotiating with English capitalists for an advance of a sum of £5,000,000 sterling, at seven per cent. We do not attempt to explain the contradiction, but if the *Gazette* wishes its statements to be accepted without dispute, as is becoming for a semi-official journal, it would do well not to attempt to prove too much. It is possible, rigorously speaking, that the Austrian Government has no need of money, and that M. Brentano is acting at London without authority, but it appears to us improbable that at a moment at which capital is in great demand for serious and lucrative enterprises, financiers should have spontaneously offered a loan to Austria before she is relieved of her embarrassments."

ABDUL AZIZ.

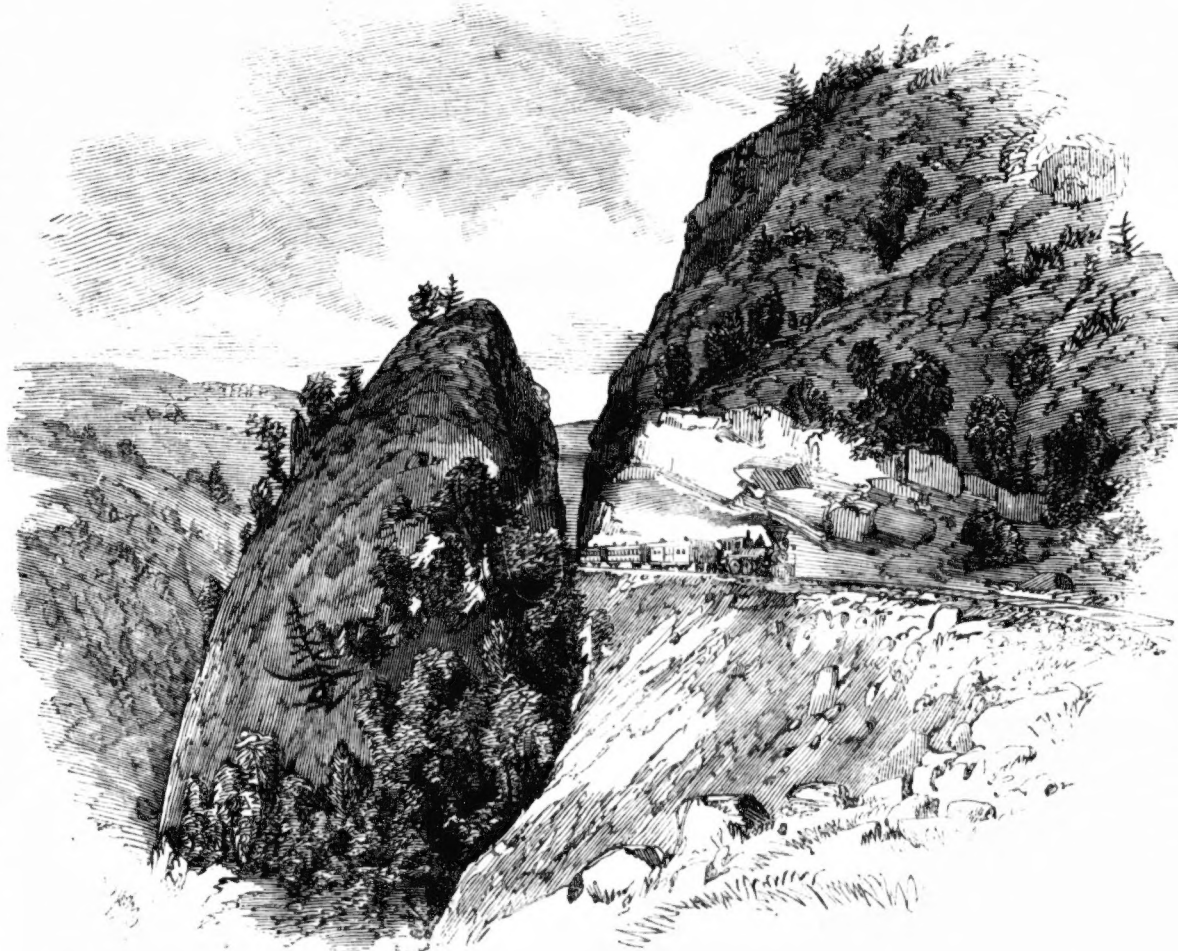
We have already given in our columns some particulars of the new Sultan; but, although our readers may have learned, from his recent improvements in government and from his expressed opinions, what manner of ruler has succeeded to the Turkish throne, we are this week able to present him as to his actual personal appearance, which, while it partakes of that family likeness which proclaims him to be the brother of Abdul Medjid, is still in striking contrast, since he evidently possesses a vigour of frame which will enable him, we hope, to carry out all the reforms that he has in contemplation for his kingdom. Already we have heard of the large sum (nearly £20,000) realised by the sale in London of the jewels of the late Sultan. We have been glad to recognise the determination of the new Monarch to oppose all the vices of a large and costly harem, and to set an example of faithfulness and purity by refusing to accede to polygamy and the habit of retaining female slaves. The work of reform progresses under the personal inspection of the Sultan himself, and it may be believed that his admirable example will effect a complete revision even in States where luxury and extravagance have for ages kept the people in poverty and the Governments bankrupt. Said Pacha has already followed in Egypt the policy of Abdul Aziz in Turkey. The army has been almost entirely disbanded; the silver helmets of the Guards have been sent to the melting-pot to come out again in the shape of an improved currency; and numerous costly but wellnigh useless public works have been abandoned, greatly to the dissatisfaction of contractors, it may be, but still with advantage to the nation. The current of fiscal and political reform having set in, who shall tell where it may stop? The East, the characteristic of which has ever been its conservative slothfulness, its barbaric extravagance, its fearful venality in all Government departments, is now about to set an example to the rest of the world, and by the vigorous impetus given by the determination of the Turkish Sultan, may hope to survive what might have been, but for his accession, the lethargy which would ultimately have caused the destruction of its power.



ABDUL AZIZ, SULTAN OF TURKEY.

THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILWAY.

It is nothing has the remarkable go-aheadism of the American people been more particularly exemplified than in the rapid construction of the extraordinary network of railways which now exists over the whole of the Northern and Southern States, as much as 31,000 miles of real track being in full work at the present time, while many lines, some of great length, are in course of construction. The old tramroads of England had scarcely been converted into a better system on the Stockton and Darlington line when the attention of Americans was drawn to this important improvement in locomotion, the people of Baltimore being among the first to adopt our improvements, by doing which they were not only enabled to hold their own against rival routes to the West but to make the route by Baltimore through the Alleghenies, the great western route to this day, as well as forming a junction of the Mississippi and Ohio valleys. It is a curious fact that long before a steam-boat cleft the waters of Lake Erie, or a coach route existed between Buffalo and the Ohio or Mississippi valleys, the emigrant and trader had marked a path across the Alleghany Mountains from Philadelphia and Baltimore to Cincinnati and the country beyond. To the city of Baltimore this trade was of vital importance. One cannot, therefore, wonder that, when the Alleghenies were turned by the long circuit of the Lake shore, and Philadelphia and New York were gaining the commerce which Baltimore was losing, the most attentive consideration was given to the best means being taken to prevent the prosperity of the city being destroyed. Numberless plans were proposed, the most feasible being supposed to be the making a canal to join the Chesapeake with the Ohio. The citizens of Baltimore looked to this scheme as the readiest means by which to recover their receding vantage-ground. Great was their consternation, then, when General Barnard, a French engineer, reported it as almost impracticable, from the great engineering difficulties in the way, and the enormous outlay of money that would be necessary to construct it; but it was not the character of these people to be beaten or turned from their purpose because difficulties were in their path. They had won their soil, their liberties, and their country, by overcoming difficulties; and now, if they could not make a canal, might they not make a railway over and through these terrible mountain passes? This bold idea was suggested to the citizens of Baltimore by two merchants—Messrs. Brown and Thomas. They had heard that a new system of road was being constructed in England called a railroad; they collected the best information they could upon the sub-



HITCHCOCK'S CUT ON THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILWAY.

ject, and set it before their fellow-townsmen as the only means by which the commercial prosperity of the city could be maintained. And it should be remembered that when this proposition was made railroads were little more than an experiment: a few only had been constructed for the conveyance of coal, iron, and other heavy articles, in particular localities. We cannot, therefore, but admire the far-seeing judgment of these gentlemen in proposing, as well as the intelligence of the merchants and citizens generally in adopting it. This was on the 12th of February, 1827 and in the same year they made application to the Legislature of Maryland for a charter, which was readily obtained, and was the first railroad charter obtained in the United States, and is considered to be a most remarkable document, indicating its author's (Mr. M'Mahon) remarkable perception, at that early period, of the powers that would be required by such a corporation. And it was remarked by one

entire course of the Potomac and the railway is of the most beautiful description, the works of the latter being through the mountain passes or up the steep sides of the Alleghenies almost to the summit of the blue ridge, descending into the richly-wooded valleys of Western Virginia through groves of rhododendrons or laurel.

The engineering works upon such a line of railway must, of course, be of a corresponding proportion in magnitude. They were all designed and executed under the superintendence of Mr. La Trobe, and rank with the greatest efforts of engineering science ever produced in any part of the world.

Our illustrations represent one of the most remarkable features of this line, and also a remarkable point in the course of the line through the mountains where a portion of the hill has slipped from its natural position, and the railway carried between it and the mountain side whence it came.

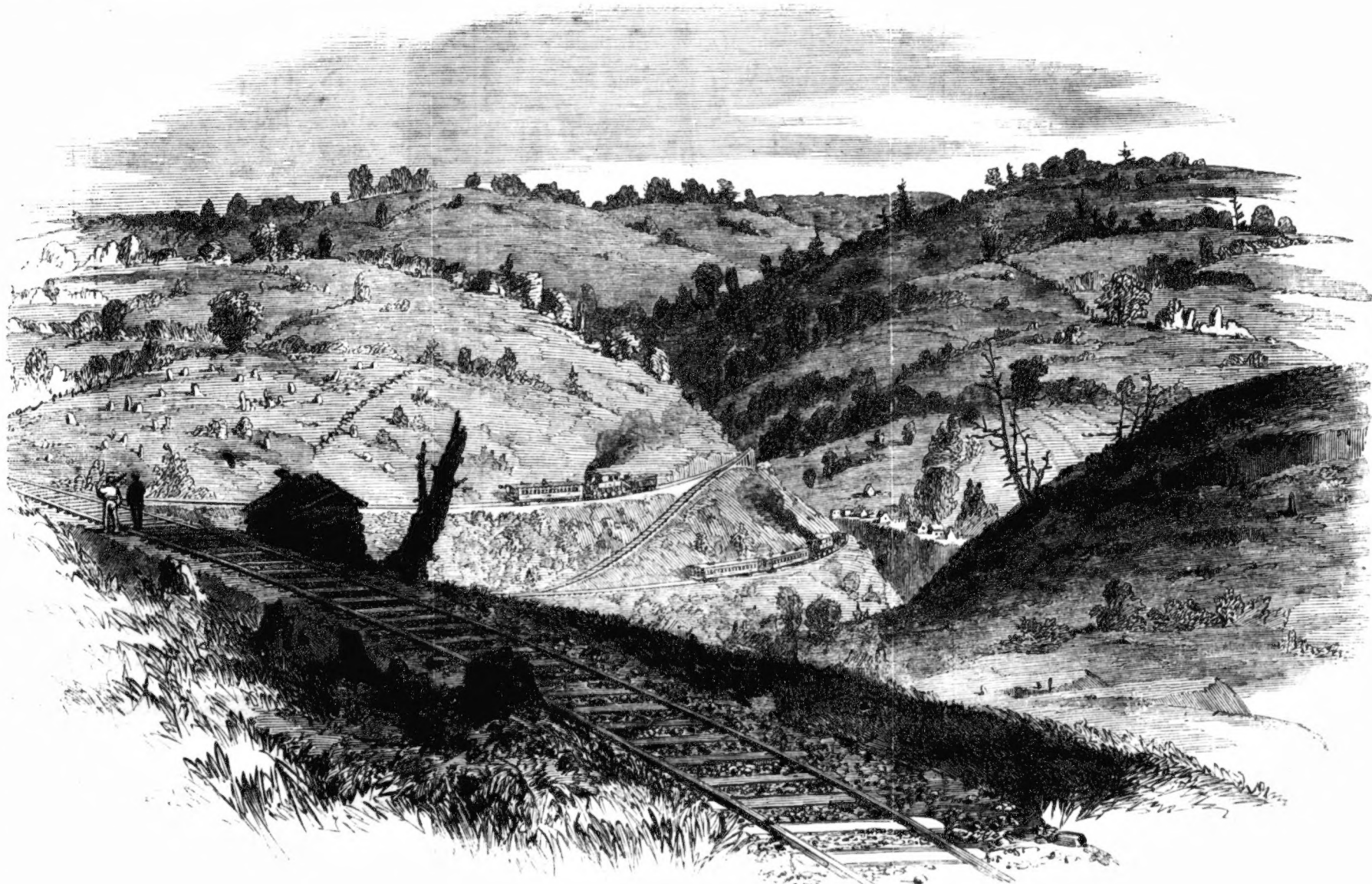
of the members of the Legislature when the preamble of the bill was being read, "that they were asking for more than the Lord's Prayer." The charter of this pioneer railroad company has been the model for all the railway charters subsequently obtained from the Legislatures of all the States.

Having been successful in obtaining their charter, they procured the passage of a bill in 1828 authorising the State of Maryland to subscribe 500,000 dollars to the stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, the first legislative aid afforded to a railway corporation in the United States.

The first stone of this great railway was laid on July 4, 1828, accompanied with every demonstration of joy and gladness, by Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, the same Charles Carroll who signed the Declaration of Independence forty-eight years previously; and on Aug. 30, 1830, fifteen days before the opening of the Manchester and Liverpool Railway in England, a train drawn by steam power passed over the first section of this great undertaking, a distance of ten miles, between Baltimore and Ellicott's Mills. It was not, however, until 1853 that the whole line was completed and the traffic on the waters of the Ohio and the Chesapeake was connected by an iron link over 400 miles in length.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railway has been of late brought prominently before the notice of the people of Europe in consequence of its following through a great part of its course the direction of the Potomac River, which separates the States of Maryland and Virginia. On each bank of this river are now encamped the armies of the Federal and Confederate States, and doubtless the first battles in this unnatural war will be fought in this locality.

The scenery throughout the



BOARD TREE, ON THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILWAY

Board Tree.—A most ingenious plan was adopted at this place during the construction of the line. A huge hill stood directly in the course of the railway which required a tunnel to be cut through it. As the work would occupy a longer time than was necessary to complete the other portions of the line, and also an outlay of money that was perhaps difficult at the time to raise, Mr. La Trobe proposed and executed one of the most remarkable feats in engineering that perhaps ever entered the head of the most inventive man in the profession. Being unable to get through the hill, he determined to carry his rails over the top, and this he accomplished in such a manner that, on its completion, engines, carriages, trucks, and all, were passed safely up on one side and down the other in about half an hour, the distance from the rails on one side the hill to the rails on the other being nearly a mile in length. Our illustration shows clearly the manner in which the operation was performed. A series of inclines were formed upon the sides of the hill, and the trains were shunted from one to the other of these; the effect produced by this arrangement of short pieces of line was to lengthen the slope of the hillside, and the engines were benefited by the plan exactly as horses drawing heavy loads up hill are often made to take a zigzag course, as being much easier than ascending directly up hill. On the completion of the tunnel this system was, of course, abandoned, and the line is now worked in the ordinary manner.

WHAT THE WAR IN AMERICA IS COSTING.

It has been calculated, on good authority, that the actual expenditure of the Federal Government at the present moment is at the rate of about £75,000,000 per annum. This, it is true, is less by £9,000,000 than our own expenditure—£84,000,000—in the heaviest year of the Crimean War; but one-third of that charge was absorbed in providing for the interest of the National Debt, and the whole sum only showed an excess of some £35,000,000 over our ordinary peace expenditure. In 1853 we spent £51,000,000; in 1854, £60,000,000; and it was not until we found ourselves in the very agony of the struggle that we added some 60 per cent. to our usual outlay. We may say, in short, that the war cost us for the twelve months when it was most expensive about £30,000,000 of money; whereas the civil war is costing the Americans at its very outset at least twice that sum. An expenditure of £75,000,000 represents an excess of about £30,000,000 on the ordinary outlay of the Federal Government, and this is incurred when the first campaign has but just been opened, and before the real proportions of the war can be supposed to be developed. This, however, though a most ominous fact, constitutes by no means the most striking feature of the case before us.

When we in this country were spending these tens of millions upon the war in hand, we were also taxing ourselves in proportion. We met an outlay of £84,000,000 by taxes to the amount of £63,000,000 net, actually paid into the Exchequer after the costs of collection had been deducted. In the following year we provided no less than £68,000,000 to meet an aggregate charge of £78,000,000, so that in the two years together we added only some £30,000,000 to the National Debt. In fact, the whole war, sanguinary and exhausting as it proved, only augmented the public debt by the sum of £32,793,000. Let us now contrast these statistics with the accounts received from America. The ordinary Federal revenue amounts to about £16,000,000, so that the extraordinary charge of the war, to be met either by taxation or loan, is, as we have said, about £60,000,000. But how do the Americans propose to raise this? What proportion will they borrow, and what proportion will they levy by taxation? As far as we can collect from the figures transmitted, they design to borrow the whole. They have voted fresh taxes, undoubtedly; but these taxes, we imagine, will do little more than provide for the mere interest of the debts contracted, or, as it is phrased, serve as "a basis for loans." We arrive at this conclusion partly by arithmetical calculation, and partly from intimations conveyed by the American journals. We are told distinctly that, though Congress was ready to authorise any amount of loans, it hesitated when asked for supplies on which to base them; and we observe that, though the best affected of the New York bankers did at first suggest that provision should be made for meeting part of the principal, they presently admitted that this arrangement might be dispensed with. Moreover, it seems pretty evident that the produce of the new taxes will not suffice for much more than the liquidation of the enormous interest which will be incessantly accruing. Until we get the estimates of the Government placed before us, we can do little more than approximate to the truth by conjecture and computation; but, if the Federal revenue were to be doubled by the proceeds of fresh taxation, the increase of income would be almost all absorbed in paying the interest of the debt which will probably be contracted by this time twelvemonth. In other words, the Americans are now creating a National Debt at the rate of £60,000,000 a year.

We entreat the reader to observe for a moment what this implies. Such a course throws all our borrowing into the shade. In all the nine years of the American War, from 1774 to 1783, we only borrowed £104,000,000; in the twenty-two years of the great Revolutionary War we averaged less than £30,000,000 a year; and in the tremendous year 1813-14 the loan was but £36,000,000. But this is only half the battle. The burden of a loan depends not so much on the amount of principal as on the rate of interest. We borrowed our money even in 1813 at a little above 4½ per cent, and in 1856 at a little above 3 per cent. The Americans, however, began by an offer of 7 per cent, and are at this moment compelled to pay 10 or 12 per cent. We find, therefore, that while £60,000,000 annually would be added to their National Debt, £6,000,000 annually would be added to the charge of that debt, so that four years and three-quarters of their present expenditure would saddle them with a burden equal to that which we have incurred in a century and a half. Mr. Gladstone has to provide some £28,000,000 to satisfy the public creditors of Great Britain. In the year 1860, if the American War should be protracted so long, Mr. Chase's successor will have to provide rather more than that sum for the creditors of the Union.—*Times*.

THE NORMAN CONQUEST OF ENGLAND.—On Sunday, the 18th inst., the ceremony of uncovering a granite column, with inscriptions, took place at Dives, in Normandy. This column is to commemorate the fact that the fleet and army of Duke William the Conqueror assembled at that port in 1066 before sailing for the conquest of England. The inauguration was attended by delegations from the learned societies of Caen, Falaise, Lisieux, Pont-Évêque, of the Eure, of La Manche, of the Orne, and of the Seine Inférieure, and by large assemblages from the neighbourhood. M. de Caumont, who has erected the monument at his own cost, made a speech on the occasion, in which he dwelt on the important consequences which have resulted from the Norman conquest of England and the importance the town of Dives derived from being associated with so memorable an event.

MR. DUNLOP'S DESPATCHES.—A letter from Vienna states that Mr. Dunlop, the Attaché of the English Embassy, who was lately in Hungary, has left for Croatia and Slavonia, in order to report on the state of affairs in those provinces. With reference to this gentleman's Hungarian mission, a Paris letter in the *Independence* says:—"Although Lord Palmerston refused to present to Parliament the despatches written from Pesth by Mr. Dunlop, he has had them printed for the members of the Cabinet and some influential personages, and also for communication to certain European Cabinets, especially those of France and Italy. It appears that these despatches, which display great knowledge of Hungarian affairs, and are written with much impartiality, have produced considerable sensation at Paris and Turin."

LOST BAGGAGE.—The following notice is posted at an American railway station:—"Travelers should be careful to deliver their baggage to proper persons, as a gentleman, a few days since, intrusted his wife to a stranger, and has not heard of her since."

RICH DEPOSITS OF GOLD have been recently discovered at Lunenburg, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the event has naturally excited a great deal of interest and excitement in the colony.

CARIBALDI ON ITALY AND HUNGARY.

THE following is a translation of a letter addressed by Garibaldi to the Princess Koltzoff Massalsky (Dora d'Istria), in reply to a communication which that lady had sent to him:—

Caprera, July 16, 1861.

Madame,—It is with admiration and gratitude that I have read your beautiful letter. It corroborates me in the opinion I have long entertained, that woman is destined by Providence to perform the first part in the emancipation of the oppressed nationalities, and in the annihilation of despotism and superstition.

You are right, madame. The Papal theocracy is the most horrible of my poor country's sufferings, made chronic as it has been by eighteen centuries of lies, persecutions, butcheries, and complicity with all the tyrants of Italy.

To-day, as always, this vampire of the land of the Scipios maintains its body corrupted and gangrened by discord, reaction, depredation, and civil war. It serves as the pretext for maintaining foreign bayonets there, and still preventing, by its accursed influence, a generous nation from constituting itself.

Our mission is yet unaccomplished. There are still many obstacles to be overcome. But the mutual sympathies of the different nations of Europe, and the unanimity with which they march hand in hand towards the same object of enfranchisement, are a sure guarantee of the success of the humanitarian crusade. There exist between your people and the Italian people so many reasons for affection that you will find it quite natural that I shall address to your brave fellow-citizens, through you, a suggestion which I think is in the interest of all.

Hungary is to-day in a very critical position. The people whose fraternity with us was cemented on the battle-fields of Italian liberty particularly merit the co-operation of the peoples of Eastern Europe, whose cause is the same. The Serbs, the Croats, the Dalmatians, &c., have given in their adhesion to the national aspirations of the Magyars. The Moldo-Wallachians ought to do the same; and I have immense hopes from your influence with your fellow-countrymen to tighten the fraternal knot which ought henceforth to unite the eastern races to their sisters of the centre and the west of Europe. The peoples, by loving and understanding one another according to the laws of Christ and of humanity, will realise the dreams of prosperity which have cradled us in all ages.—With devotion and gratitude, yours,

GARIBALDI.

A correspondent of the *Debats*, writing from Turin on the 16th, says:—

Count Treccchi, formerly Aide-de-Camp of Garibaldi, and at present Aide-de-Camp of the King, has just left this for Caprera. Count Treccchi has been the medium of communication between the King and Garibaldi, and his present mission has given rise to many conjectures. Some suppose that it refers to an expedition into Hungary; others that the object is to induce Garibaldi to go to Naples with a view of tranquillising the people by means of his great popularity. Whatever be the object, the mission of Count Treccchi is a fact, and has excited considerable interest.

The *Diritto* of Turin publishes intelligence from Caprera to the effect, giving some account of Garibaldi's health and opinions on affairs in general.

General Garibaldi, who has been attacked with his rheumatic pains, remained in bed for several days, and until the 4th never left the house. Since that day he has resumed his walks, and now nothing remains of his complaint but a slight pain in his left hand, which will shortly disappear by the use of the vapour bath. Very much grieved at what is going on in Naples, he makes it the subject of long conversations with the companions of his solitude, and with the frequent visitors, Italian and foreign, who urge him, but in vain, to leave the island. He has formally declared that he will not do so unless compelled by events. He receives a great number of addresses and letters from all nations who are labouring for the great cause of independence and liberty.

ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY THE NEAPOLITAN BRIGANDS.

It is difficult to credit the accounts received of the atrocities committed by hired assassins in the Neapolitan territory under cover of supporting the Bourbons, and with the connivance and concurrence of Francis II. and the Papal Government; and yet the statements are so circumstantial, and, moreover, uncontradicted, that the conviction is forced upon us that the most revolting crimes are daily being perpetrated in the name of religion, legitimacy, and so-called "order." The following extract from a letter in the *Nazione* gives a few specimens of the doings of the "patriots" whose wrongs Sir George Bowyer is so ready to complain of and champion:—

I write to you full of grief and rage on account of new atrocities committed by the brigands. At Viesti the brigands barbarously killed nine gentlemen of the liberal party, and similar atrocities were committed in other villages. But that which they have done in the commune of San Paolo, in the district of Molise, surpasses all imagination. On the morning of the 4th the brigands, all dressed in the uniform of the old Bourbon gendarmes, surprised the town, and, after having sacked the houses without exception, took the Curate, Giovanni Rogati (who had the reputation of being an honest priest and a good Liberal), his brother, and the syndic of the village, Signor Antonio Capra, and, having brought them out naked on the public square, they exposed them to the derision and the insults of the vilest of the populace, who made common cause with the brigands, and, after this spectacle had lasted several hours, murdered them with their bayonets. They then took the wife of the syndic, and, after having stripped her naked, committed on her person every imaginable outrage, leaving her half dead. Having learned that a certain Giuseppe Cavarra, a respectable man, was trying to escape in order to alarm the neighbouring villages, they arrested him, and, having dressed him up as a woman in the middle of the public square, they set fire to his dress and burnt him alive. Hearing of the approach of a detachment of troops from Barazze and of National Guards from the neighbouring village, they betook themselves to a precipitate retreat. After hearing of such cannibal atrocities, how is it possible to show generosity to these wretches or to their employers? How can we expect the common people to allow the brigands to pass on with impunity when they see them conveyed by the police? The carabinieri have the greatest difficulty to defend the brigands from the fury of the people when they are taking them to prison. They are in consequence obliged to bring them into Naples in the night. Some of the brigands were followed by their wives.

THE "PLOT AGAINST THE CZAR."—Some time since a story was published by the Continental papers to the effect that a plot had been discovered, the object of which was to depose the Czar, and either institute a republic in Russia or elevate some other member of the Imperial family to the throne, with such limitations as would effectually curtail the despotic power of the Crown for the future. The *Austrian Gazette* publishes the following as an explanation of the affair:—"At the beginning of the present year the St. Petersburg journals published a strange notice, which was received by the majority of the public as a feuilletonist's piousness. It was stated that Alexander Hertz, the well-known Russian refugee resident in London, was correctly informed of all that occurred in the inner Court circles of Russia and in high official quarters. Hertz, it was said, was cognisant of secrets intrusted to Ministers, and often even of those known to but one Minister. Spies were sent to London, and Hertz was aware of it beforehand, and even had their portraits. We learn (continues the *Austrian Gazette*) that Privy Councillor Schukoff has been suddenly afflicted with insanity. The first symptoms manifested themselves by his making insulting proposals to a lady, in a loud tone, in company; then by a letter written to the Emperor on the next day, in which the Privy Councillor announced that he had been selected for Dictator of the Russian Republic; and counselled the Emperor to abdicate voluntarily, and make no useless resistance. All this was attributed to madness, and a domiciliary visit was paid to Schukoff's house, with the object of removing his papers, and preventing his making a wrong use of them. The visit led to the discovery of letters that showed clearly enough how Hertz got his information, and, moreover, developed a plot. There was seized a continuous correspondence of the Councillor with Hertz, and with a Grand Duchess with whom Schukoff was on terms of peculiar intimacy. The discovery has had a deep effect on the Emperor. It appears that the great lady in question, who was treated with unlimited confidence by Alexander II., often used her influence to urge his Majesty to hasty measures, which Hertz let out as he pleased in his publication called the *Bell*."

A NEGRO IN BATTLE.—During the fight at Bull Run a negro from Lynchburg, named Dick Langhorn, belonging to one of the officers of a Virginia regiment, shot one of the Yankees in the shoulder, and with his revolver knocked down another who accompanied him. As they rose from the ground, the ebony patriot brought his pistol to bear upon them a second time, accompanied with the very philosophical remark, "Berry sorry to hurt you, massa, but de fact am, dis chile wants to show you to some ob de gemmen in ole Wirginny. Come along, or dis nigger hit you, shuah!" "Come along!" they did, and the boy had the proud pleasure of delivering his prisoners into the hands of the Colonel of the regiment.—*Southern Paper*.

IRELAND.

OPENING OF THE GLASNEVIN BOTANIC GARDENS.—The Glasnevin Botanic Gardens, Dublin, were opened for the first time to the public on Sunday. The fact was not generally known. About 400 attended, representing all classes. The people behaved remarkably well.

A FALSE SPURGEON.—John Stenson, who called himself the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, has recently been victimising the hotelkeepers and tradesmen of various towns in Ireland, particularly in Limerick and Dublin. He was traced from the former city to Cork, and there apprehended while busy "composing his sermon," as he said; but on being brought before the Limerick magistrates last week, it was found that there was no prosecutor, as the prisoner's victims in that town, having been paid their bills, had withdrawn the charge against him. He was accordingly discharged, after receiving a severe rebuke from the Mayor.

DR. CULLEN AND LORD BROUGHAM.—A passage in Lord Brougham's inaugural address at the opening of the Social Science Congress having given offence to Dr. Cullen, that Prelate has issued a pastoral letter, in which he denounces the noble and learned Lord, as well as all who dare to impugn the character of the Pope's government of his States, and, indeed, to say anything whatever against his Holiness or the clergy; and winds up with strongly urging the "faithful Catholics" of Ireland to contribute more liberally to the "Peter's Pence" fund. The Bishop "proves the occasion" of a not unmerited condemnation of the temporal government of the Pope into an opportunity both for carrying the war into the enemy's country and for trying to replenish the exhausted coffers of the Holy See. Dr. Cullen meets the charge of Papal misgovernment in this fashion:—"Were it merely the desire of the president of that association to find some contrast with his general picture of prosperity and progress, he could surely have had no difficulty in discovering one much nearer home; he could find a nation as blessed by nature as any other under the sun, and which, without being desolated by war, pestilence, or famine, was, nevertheless, in ten years diminished in its population by nearly a million of souls—a nation whose poor are imprisoned in our workhouses, and treated far worse than the convicts in our gaols—a nation whose Church Establishment presents an anomaly never before witnessed in any civilised country, and to whose people is yet denied that education, founded on true religious principles, which every other Government of Europe has granted to its subjects. It was not necessary to seek in the lying correspondence from Turin and Naples the picture of a country to which justice was refused; and far wiser than the unwarranted denunciations against the Government of Rome would have been some effort to undeceive our legislators and awaken their attention to the harshness with which our own poor are treated, and to that crying iniquity by which our Catholic people are compelled each year to pay £200,000 to the ministers of a Church whose mission they cannot recognise and whose teaching they reject."

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN.—A meeting of ladies of Dublin, called by the Ladies' Reception Committee, on the subject of the employment of women, was held on Monday. Lord Brougham was present during the proceedings, and the galleries were filled with ladies. The meeting was addressed by Miss Bessie Parkes and Miss Emily Faithfull. After some discussion as to the employment of women, Lord Talbot de Malahide moved, and Lord Brougham seconded, the following resolution:—"That this meeting, recognising the importance of the movement, is willing to assist in forming a branch society in Dublin in connection with the London Society for Promoting the Employment of Women." The resolution was carried, and the thanks of the meeting were given to Miss Parkes and Miss Faithfull.

SCOTLAND.

FALKIRK TRYST.—This great annual market was held on the usual ground, Stenhousemuir, on Tuesday week. The stock had a fair appearance, though the show was considerably short in point of numbers; but this arose from the large quantity of sheep in the northern counties. The bulk of the Highland stock shown were principally composed of small beasts. The quality was, upon the whole, rather inferior, with the exception of a few lots of two-year-old stots and a lot of two-year-old queys. There were also a few lots of good-conditioned stinks. The better-conditioned beasts of the Highland kind were disposed of, but at the close of the market there were a large number of the small, inferior Highland beasts unsold. The prices asked were large, and the English dealers, rather than submit to such demands, allowed the Highlanders to put the stock on grass till September.

THE MOORS.—The reports from the shooting districts are generally favourable as to the stock of game, but the weather has been so very unpropitious—heavy rains having fallen almost everywhere in the Highlands on the 12th, and for some days subsequently—that the sport enjoyed has as yet been rather meagre. A few good bags, however, have been made, and, should the wet weather cease, good sport is generally anticipated. Chief seems to be an exception to the rule of bad weather; the shooting there has been very successful, and the number of boxes and hampers of game sent south by railway is stated to have been large.

THE PROVINCES.

MURDER IN WILTSHIRE.—On Sunday afternoon, between two and three o'clock, the wife of John Hill, gamekeeper for Sir Francis Ashley, at Ert Everley, Wilts, was found near the dog's kennel, not far from her dwelling-house, with her throat cut, her neck and the lower portion of her face presenting marks of strangulation. The deceased's husband is absent from home, and she was found by a male relative, who obtained the assistance of a surgeon, who gave it as his opinion that the woman had been dead between two and three hours. Two men were seen going towards the house about one o'clock, and the police are on their track.

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF A CONVICT.—A convict named John McCallum made his escape from Chatham last week. McCallum, although but eighteen years of age, is described as an adept in crime, and had already made a nearly successful attempt at escape since he has been at Chatham. On the present occasion, he managed to elude the vigilance of the warders and got on a pile of timber, thence to the top of the wall, and then dropped on the ground and ran off. As he was running away, near the soldiers' rifle-ground, in the direction of Brompton, he was seen by a girl, who had observed him let himself down by the wall. The convict, however, immediately disarmed her suspicions by asking her who was the nearest doctor, as a policeman had met with a dreadful accident in the dockyard and was nearly killed, and he had been directed to get over the wall and run the nearest way for a surgeon. McCallum then ran off towards Gillingham, but was immediately afterwards missed. A party of police and warders started off in pursuit, but after tracking him as far as Gillingham all traces of the runaway were lost, and although the officers remained in the neighbourhood all day searching the orchards, brickfields, and hedges, no tidings of him could be obtained. Intelligence of the convict's escape, with a description of his appearance, was directly telegraphed to every principal town in the kingdom, and a reward of £5 offered for his capture. Late on the Friday night the escaped convict was seen entering the town of Dartford by Sergeant Claddish, of the Kent county police, who immediately arrested him, and he has again been safely lodged in St. Mary's Prison and placed in irons to await his punishment for being at large. McCallum has spent a large portion of his life in prison, and, before his present sentence, had undergone four years' penal servitude.

CRIMINAL ASSAULT ON A CLERGYMAN'S DAUGHTER.—A young man named Joseph Bairdow, an architect, has been committed by the Halifax justices or trial, at the next York Assizes for a criminal assault upon Miss Mary Marples, a rather pretty person, close upon sixteen years of age, daughter of the Rev. John Marples, minister of Union Croft Independent Chapel, Halifax. The felony is alleged to have been committed on Friday night, the 9th instant. That day Mr. Marples was visited by another minister from a distance, and arrangements were made for Miss Marples to sleep for a few evenings at the house of an acquaintance half a mile distant, and she started to go there on the night in question about eleven o'clock. On the way she was met by the prisoner, whom she repulsed, and he went away, but again met her at a more lonely spot, pulled her down a lane into some fields, and there, after a good deal of struggling, committed the offence. On Mr. Marples being informed of the affair, he had Mr. Bairdow apprehended. He was admitted to bail in £100.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.—Among the payments made by the Hull Corporation is an annuity of £76 to one Henry Saxoni, a foreigner, and of which annuity that individual has been in receipt for fifty-six years past. It appears that in the early part of this century the Hull Corporation, in order to raise money, resorted to the system now in vogue in some public and Government offices of granting annuities. Saxoni, who is now about ninety-six years of age, was a tightrope-dancer, who came to this town, and advanced to the Corporation the sum of £200; the consideration being that he was to receive for the rest of his life an annuity of £76, being nearly ten per cent on the amount. Mr. Saxoni's longevity has enabled him to receive, by way of annuity, about five times the amount of principal advanced by him.—*Hull Packet*.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A man named Pugh was on Tuesday charged before the magistrates at Worcester with the double crime of attempting to murder Dinah Mason and of afterwards cutting his own throat. Pugh and the woman, who seems to be of a very disreputable character, had cohabited together, but she had lately left him to live with another man. This exasperated him, and on Saturday night he proceeded to her lodgings, and after some altercation first cut her throat and then his own with a razor. The wounds, however, were not fatal in either case, and both parties are now considered out of danger. The prisoner was remanded.

MURDER BY A BOY.—A shocking instance of juvenile ferocity was displayed at Birkenhead last week. Two boys quarrelled in their play upon the sands, when one of them pulled out a knife and stabbed the other in the neck, causing instantaneous death. The young ruffian has been taken into custody. Both the boys were about nine years of age.

POACHING AFFRAY IN YORKSHIRE.—A poaching affray, in which more than one person was a good deal injured, took place on Sunday on the estate of Mr. Holdforth, of Galey Hall, near Otley, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. About one o'clock in the morning Mr. Holdforth's gamekeeper, accompanied by his son and some other men, discovered three poachers setting nets in a field. The watchers went up to them, and succeeded in apprehending one of the men, but the others resisted, and in a very short time six more men came up, and assisted the poachers in attacking the keepers. A severe conflict ensued, sticks, stones, and dogs being employed in the affray, and two or three men on both sides being knocked down more than once. The poachers had three dogs, but the keepers only one. Ultimately the keepers were overpowered, and all the poachers escaped; but during the struggle, or as the poachers were making off, one of the keepers fired a revolver, which no doubt wounded one of the men, for marks of blood were afterwards traced for some distance in the direction of Leeds. The cap of one of the poachers was found on the ground. The police are endeavouring to discover and apprehend the poachers.

BUILDERS' STRIKE IN LIVERPOOL.—The dispute in the building trades which has so long agitated London has now extended itself to Liverpool. The majority of the building firms of that city having intimated their intention to adopt the system of payment by the hour, instead of by the day, the greater part of the operatives have struck work, and there are now from 1500 to 2000 men in that town out of employment. The strike includes bricklayers, joiners, plasterers, and plumbers. Operations at most of the principal buildings in course of construction are entirely suspended, and both sides seem equally determined to hold out, so that it is impossible to tell how long this unhappy state of things may continue. It is said that the masters, foreseeing the possibility of a strike occurring, have had a clause inserted in all contracts recently undertaken exempting them from penalties for non-fulfilment of their engagements in the event of a strike. They are thus independent of their men as regards emergencies of that nature, and the men, on the other hand, being supported by the other trades unions, are resolved on fighting out the quarrel to the last. All the usual features of strikes are developing themselves—the masters endeavouring to obtain men from a distance, as well as non-union hands; and the society men planting pickets round the various workshops, and endeavouring to coax or bribe the new hands away. Some of the master joiners are said to have got as many men as they require, who are willing to work by the hour, and others have their shops from a third to half full. The men, it is only justice to say, are not only offering no violence, but are, generally, conducting themselves with calmness if not wisdom.

A MARKER AT A BUTT SHOT.—A sad accident occurred on Saturday at Rumstead Common, and put an end to the practice of the hundreds of volunteers who were shooting at the various ranges. All the "danger" flags were suddenly displayed as a signal that the firing was to cease, and a rumour spread rapidly from group to group that one of the markers had been shot through the shoulder. The report proved to be too true. In less than half an hour the unfortunate man was dead. Much sympathy was displayed by the volunteers present, who, for the most part, discontinued their practice, and by a kind of tacit understanding quietly left the ground. A subscription was hastily set on foot for the sufferer, and was continued for the benefit of his family. It was impossible, however, to make this known with sufficient rapidity; and it is believed many corps left the ground without being aware that a collection was being made. There is no positive information as to the cause of this deplorable accident. —*Maidstone Journal.*

AMPUTATION BY A RAILWAY TRAIN.—On Saturday night a platelayer, named John Beveridge, living in Gateshead, left his home, being then considerably under the influence of liquor, and proceeded to walk along the North-Eastern Railway towards the Felling, with the intention, it is supposed, of going to Sunderland. He was not again seen until half-past eleven o'clock, when a gamekeeper at the Felling, named Graham, found him sitting by the side of the line, near the Felling Station, with both his legs taken off a few inches below the knee—one of the limbs being thrown on one side of the line and the other on the opposite side of the rails. The unfortunate man was holding up the stump of his right leg when found, and was only able to gasp out his name and place of abode when he lapsed into a state of unconsciousness. He was conveyed in a cart to the infirmary at Newcastle, where he arrived at half-past one o'clock on Sunday morning. His case was then pronounced to be hopeless. He lingered through the day, and became sufficiently sensible to state to his friends that he was knocked down and run over by an engine; but at five o'clock at night he was in a dying state. It would appear that the unfortunate man was run over by the south mail which is due at Newcastle at 10.15 p.m., and which does not stop at the Felling. Beveridge leaves a wife and two children to deplore his loss. —*Newcastle Chronicle.*

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The eighteenth annual meeting or congress of the British Archaeological Association commenced at Exeter on Monday, under the presidency of Sir S. H. Northcote, M.P. Amongst those present who have promised to read papers during the week were Mr. Pianché, on the Earls of Devon; Mr. T. Wright, on the library given by Bishop Leofric to Exeter Cathedral, in the beginning of the eleventh century, and also on the Exeter Municipal Boards; Mr. Gordon Hills, on Ford Abbey; Mr. Pettigrew, on some Roman antiquities found in Exeter; Mr. C. E. Davis, on Exeter Cathedral; Lieut.-Colonel Harding, on the coinage of Exeter; Mr. Gidley, on the Royal Visitation to Exeter; Mr. P. D. Hutchinson, on the hill fortresses, tumuli, and some other antiquities of Eastern Devon; Mr. Ashworth, on Tor Abbey; and Mr. N. H. P. Lawrence, on Compton Castle.

THE HARVEST.

ENGLAND.—Throughout the southern division of the island the weather during the past week has been all that could be desired—bright sunshine, gentle breezes, and brilliant moonlight having all lent their aid to the ripening, reaping, and carrying of the crops. The slight and partial showers which have fallen have been beneficial, especially to the grass lands and green crops, and not at all injurious to the cereals. With a few days more of such weather, it is generally anticipated that the crops throughout the English counties will be safely stacked in good condition.

SCOTLAND.—Unhappily, the elements have not been so propitious in the north. Complaints of wet, cold weather are general in Scotland, where the ripening of the grain crops is progressing but slowly, and reaping little more than begun, even in favoured localities. There is also much talk of the appearance of the potato disease, which is stated to have shown itself in a very decided form in many districts. It is somewhat remarkable that the character of the weather in the two divisions of the island should have been completely reversed this year, as compared with last. In England wet weather prevailed almost entirely during the critical period of last year, while in Scotland it was even unusually fine; whereas this season the very reverse seems to obtain. The potato crop, especially, were remarkably good in most parts of Scotland last year. If present prognostications prove correct, the same will not be the case this season.

IRELAND.—The accounts of the harvest are unfavourable. Many low-lying districts have been flooded by heavy rains; the crops have been to a considerable extent damaged; the potato blight is making progress; and on the whole the crops are regarded as in a critical state.

CONGRESS OF ARTISTS AT ANTWERP.—A congress of artists is now assembled at Antwerp, the object of which is the adoption of measures for securing to the artist or author the property in his own works, and to prevent the system of counterfeits or forgeries, which robs him of the fruits of his own talent and industry. The gathering takes place under the patronage of the King; but, owing to his Majesty's absence, the proceedings are conducted under the auspices of M. Rogier, the Prime Minister, as President.

CITY WARRIDOREMEN AND THE VOLUNTEERS.—It is stated by a contemporary that the following notice has been posted up in the dining-room of Messrs. Cook, Son, and Co., of St. Paul's-churchyard:—"It is requested that all young men in this establishment (holding situations under that of first salaried men) who have joined the volunteer corps, will at once send in their resignations to the brigade or leave this establishment."

ENGLISH AND IRISH CRIME.—At the recent assizes in Ireland the Judges everywhere congratulated the grand juries on the almost total absence of crime. In the thirty-two counties of Ireland there was only one capital conviction—that of Phibbs, in Sligo, for murder. Let us now turn to England, and see how different is the state of morality there. Not an assize has been held in any county in which the most brutal and shocking murders and other heinous offences have not formed the subjects of investigation. Scarcely an English newspaper could be lifted within the past month without the reader seeing a capital conviction recorded; in fact, on some days three or four people were ordered for execution. As one instance of how different the calendars of English counties and Irish counties are, we may state that at the late South Lancashire Assizes (half a county) there were no fewer than 118 persons for trial, some of them charged with the most heinous crimes, 11 being capital offences. The whole crime of Ireland at the last assizes, if united in one calendar, would not present such a frightful picture. The 118 prisoners are indicted as follows:—Murder, 4; intent to murder, 7; manslaughter, 10; stabbing, cutting, and wounding, 12; rape, 2; robbery from the person, 17; highway, 17; arson, 3; burglary, 39; housebreaking, 13; forgery, 13; stealing post letters, 1; concealing childbirth, 1; perjury, 2; passing base coin, 1; high poaching, 4; other offences, 7. —*Northern Whig.*

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO IRELAND.

HER Majesty the Queen, her Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and some other of the members of the Royal family, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, left Osborne House on Wednesday morning, about eight o'clock, and crossed over to Gosport in the screw-yacht Fairy, receiving the customary salutes from the ships at Spithead and the harbour, and from the garrison. The Royal party were received by the principal naval and military officers of the port, and immediately after their disembarkation entered the splendid new saloon-carriage constructed for her Majesty's use by the London and North-Western Railway Company, and left per special train for Holyhead, where they arrived at 6.44. The Royal party almost immediately went on board, and sailed for Kingstown at 7.15 p.m.

Notwithstanding it was generally known that the Queen wished her arrival at Kingstown to be as private as circumstances would allow, and the lateness of the hour at which she was expected, large crowds collected on the pier from an early hour, either to witness the disembarkation, or at least the arrival, and to accord to her Majesty a hearty and a respectful reception. At half-past ten the Royal squadron, consisting of the Royal yacht the Victoria and Albert, and the Osborne, was sighted off the harbour, and in less than an hour after the Royal yacht was inside the piers. The men-of-war in the harbour were all most beautifully illuminated, and the crowds on the piers excessive, and continued so up to the latest hour. The run from Holyhead to Kingstown was accomplished in less than four hours. Her Majesty landed on Thursday at half-past 11 a.m., and immediately started per train for Dublin.

The younger members of the Royal Family—namely, Princesses Louise and Beatrice, and Princes Arthur and Leopold—who are to precede their Royal parents to Balmoral this year, left King's-cross station on Thursday morning, attended by Lady Caroline Barington, Colonel De Ros, Sir James Clark, her Majesty's physician, and other members of the Royal household. The Royal children arrived in Edinburgh in the evening, and were expected to remain in that city over Friday, and proceed to Balmoral this morning.

SOUTH LANCASHIRE ELECTION.

This contest has resulted in the return of the Conservative candidate, Mr. Charles Turner.

Manchester presented a very animated appearance during the polling on Saturday, some of the busiest thoroughfares of the city being obstructed by crowds of people awaiting the hourly publication of returns. Great good-humour and good order prevailed throughout; and, from the time when Mr. Turner's majority became decided, the announcement of numbers was received with enthusiastic cheering by that gentleman's partisans. Many of the voters (Mr. Cobden and Lord Ingestrie among the number) came from great distances. The Liberals attribute their loss of the election to the non-fulfilment of pledges in the West Derby hundred.

The following is the state of the poll at its close as officially declared by the High Sheriff:—

Turner	...	...	...	...	9714
Cheetham	...	...	...	...	8898
Majority	...	...	...	...	816

Mr. Cheetham had a large majority in the Salford hundred; but Mr. Turner's preponderance in the hundred of West Derby outbalanced it.

Both candidates addressed assemblies in the evening in front of their respective committee-rooms, and were loudly cheered by their supporters. In the course of his speech Mr. Turner said:—

He looked upon this election as a triumph of principle, the electors having manifested their attachment to our present Constitution with a preference of progressive amendments in it, and their rejection of the extreme doctrines of the League, including separation of Church and State, vote by ballot, triennial Parliaments, and American democracy. He had never been and would not be found an enemy to progress, but the progress he advocated was to improve and confirm, not to destroy, our institutions, which gave us more liberty and happiness than any other nation enjoyed.

Mr. Cheetham, in his address, remarked that, although defeated, neither he nor his principles were disgraced. He had come forward on no personal grounds:—

He came as identified with and representing the opinion of a great united Liberal party in South Lancashire. He had upon his committee, and he had received the votes of, men of every shade of Liberal opinions; but to obtain that support he had on no occasion withheld his opinions or attempted to modify or deny them. Those opinions were not mere theories. During thirty years they had been advancing constantly into results, and to them was due the present prosperous state of the country. Let not the present momentary defeat daunt the energies or suspend the efforts of his friends; let them rather contemplate those principles with the conviction that the time would come when the flag of victory would accompany them to the hustings. In this great centre of commerce, intelligence, and enlightenment—in the Salford hundred—he had a large majority, while his opponent owed success to the votes of those in more distant parts of the division who had no opinion of their own and gave their votes as they were blinded.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1862.—The Commissioners of the International Exhibition of 1862 have addressed a letter to the National Life-boat Institution requesting it to exhibit in the building some of its model barometer-indicators. It is probable that a full-sized indicator may also be exhibited. It may be added that the commissioners have granted permission to the National Life-boat Institution to exhibit at the International Exhibition one of its best double-banked life-boats, thoroughly equipped, mounted on her transporting-carriage. At the Great Exhibition of 1851 Mr. James Beeching, of Yarmouth, exhibited his model of a self-righting life-boat. It gained the prize of £105 for the best life-boat given by the Duke of Northumberland. At the International Exhibition of 1862 will be seen a life-boat possessing that important property of Mr. Beeching's boat, but considerably improved in many respects, and representing a class of life-boats now to be found in scores on the coasts of the United Kingdom, which have saved hundreds of shipwrecked persons, and are likely to be the means of rescuing thousands more in years to come. Several of these boats have also been stationed on the shores of foreign countries by their respective Governments. The construction of the building for the Exhibition progresses so satisfactorily that it is confidently anticipated that it will be completed within the time specified in the engagements with the contractors; and the communications received by the commissioners from all parts of the world, indicating the intention of the different peoples to exhibit their industrial productions, place the success of the undertaking beyond a doubt. All the arrangements are in a most forward and satisfactory state.

BRITISH COMMERCE WITH GERMANY.—A letter from Earl Russell's Secretary to the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, in reply to a memorial from that body, intimates that Mr. Ward, our Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General at Hamburg, has been directed to assist Lord Augustus Loftus in endeavouring to procure commercial privileges for England in connection with the treaty between France and the Zollverein now in course of negotiation, as favourable as are to be granted to any other nation.

A NEW SETTLEMENT OF THE ROMAN QUESTION.—A letter from Vienna of the 10th, in the *Elberfeld Gazette*, says:—"We are assured that negotiations which have taken place between the Cabinets of Paris and Turin have resulted in the determination to make a new proposal to the Pope for the settlement of the Roman question. The proposition is to give his Holiness the Isle of Elba in exchange for Rome."

THE FIRE BRIGADE.—On Monday the committee for managing the affairs of the London Fire Brigade appointed Capt. Eyre Massey Shaw, chief of the Belfast police and fire brigade, to the office of superintendent of the fire establishment rendered vacant by the death of the late Mr. Braidwood. The salary is £100 per annum, and a residence at the head station in Watling-street. There are other emoluments attached to the office in connection with the existing duties now carrying on by the brigade at the various public buildings, the Post Office, Custom House, dockyards, &c. The appointment, it should be observed, is only *ad interim*, the committee for managing the affairs of the fire brigade being of opinion that the Government, in the course of the next Session, will propose a measure for creating a fire police force in connection with the metropolitan police, when the present brigade will be made available.

THE BARON DE VIEL.—At the Central Criminal Court, on Wednesday, Baron de Viel was brought up to plead to the indictment charging him with attempting to murder his son. The prisoner pleaded "Not guilty," and elected to be tried by a jury composed entirely of Englishmen. The case was to be tried on Friday.

MR. ROEBUCK ON OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The Mayor and Corporation of Sheffield dined together on Wednesday evening, when the members for the borough, Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Hadfield, were present. In responding to the toast of the borough members, Mr. Roebuck spoke at considerable length. The following are a few passages from his speech:—

THE COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE.

Two great countries had been attempting to come closer together by commercial union, and that mainly by the attempts and labours of Mr. Cobden. Between the people of France and the people of England an alliance could not be too intimate. Great they were both, and mighty in their influence upon the world. He honoured France and her people, and he believed that anything which would unite us to them would be a benefit to both and a benefit to mankind at large. Whether the effort would be successful, he would not attempt to say. For himself, he was an ardent admirer of Mr. Cobden, but he feared the commercial treaty would not bear the fruits that gentleman anticipated. He hoped he might be mistaken.

OUR RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

The person who now headed the great country of France was not able to follow all the amicable desires that we had in our minds at present. He would not allude to the circumstances which placed him upon the throne of France, but these circumstances made him, he would not say the slave, but they made him the servant of the army of France (Hear). That army now amounted to 600,000 men, and there was a great fleet around the coast. Why were they there? (Hear.) They were there to threaten England, and he, as an Englishman, was not born to be threatened with impunity. But the dragon's teeth have been bound. The volunteers have started up, and we are now safe; and, besides this, there is at the head of the Administration—I say it in the hearing of men who do not believe in that Administration—there is at the head of the Administration now one who cares for the honour and the safety of England; and so long as we have him there, we are safe. (Loud applause.) He had said that he was not the first in the language of compliment, but this he said from his very heart. He felt the danger in which England was placed, and looked with respect upon the man to whom he looked for the safety of the country; and, depend upon it, as soon as we got rid of this man, we should get rid of one of our great defences.

FRENCH DESIGNS ON SARDEGNA.—IMPORTANCE OF ALLIANCE WITH AUSTRIA.—He (Mr. Roebuck) would now make known a secret to the whole meeting. He knew there had been a compact entered into with the King of Italy that the Emperor of the French should have the Island of Sardinia so soon as he withdrew from Rome (Cries of "Shame!" "Surely not!" &c.) He was stating a fact, not what he thought, but what he knew; and he knew also that the people of England would not allow that ("Hear," and cheers). There was hanging over us now a cloud threatening war, and that man at the head of the Administration was ready to battle against such aggrandisement on the part of France. What he had said he reminded his hearers would be verified before many months elapsed. Such was the condition of England with regard to France; and, in such a position, should we not look abroad for what means of defence there is against the Emperor of the French making the Mediterranean a French lake? (Hear.) Where are we to expect him to stop? He knew he should be met with all sorts of imputations ("No, no!"). But he said we must look to Austria.

THE PROPOSED AUSTRIAN CONSTITUTION.

After vindicating the Emperor of Austria in similar terms to those he made use of at Southampton last week, Mr. Roebuck went on to say:—

Some documents had been given to him, from which he had made a few extracts. The Emperor of Austria had endeavoured to make the Constitution of that country as nearly like that of England as possible. The Constitution of Austria would consist of a House of Commons and a House of Lords; that was like ourselves. The members of the House of Lords would consist of Princes of the Imperial Houses; that was like ourselves. The landed hereditary nobility, and those Archbishops and Bishops whose noble rank entitled them to a seat; these also were like ourselves. The Emperor also ordained that he shall call up those persons to life peerages who have distinguished themselves by their abilities either in Church, State, Literature, or Arts. This was not like ourselves (Hear). The House of Commons would consist of 513 members taken from the following places:—Hungary, 85 members; Bohemia, 51; Venetia, 29; Dalmatia, 5; Croatia and Slavonia, 9; Galicia, Lodomeria, the Duchy of Auschwitz and Zator, and the Duchy of Cracow, 38; Upper Austria, 18; Lower Austria, 10; Duchy of Salzburg, 3; Steiermark, 13; Carinthia, 5; Agram, 6; Bukovina, 5; Siebenbürgen, 26; Moravia, 22; Tyrol, 12; Istria (containing Gorz, Gradiska, and city of Trieste), 6—in all 513. Now, then, it may be asked, can Hungary be swamped by the Duchy of Austria, seeing that Upper Austria has 18 and Lower 10 members? The Emperor of Austria wants an empire in the midst of Europe to communicate with other nations. It had hitherto been united by the golden link of the Crown, but he would have it united by a constitutional Government, an Imperial Parliament, a House of Lords and a House of Commons, representing each and every one of the separate nationalities composing the empire. This the Emperor considered would enable him to meet antagonistic Powers upon a great and fair field.

AMERICA.

He owned that with regard to that country his early anticipations had been shaken. He had believed in the great men—the Washingtons, the J. F. Johnsons, and others of past times, and that there was about to be shown to mankind a new era in the government of man—that this people, instructed and well-to-do in the world—many of them men of rank—would have governed themselves as men ought to do. He had been miserably disappointed. The unspeakable audacity, the overbearing insolence of Americans, had withdrawn from them all sympathy on the part of the people of England (Hear). Looking at the great contest now going on, was there a man in this country who did not in his heart desire that the slave might be free? (Hear.) These are with the North, our commercial interests are with the South, but still we have acted throughout with complete neutrality, and what has been the consequence? We have been vested with abuse such as was never before heaped upon us, and we have borne it with a magnanimity and carelessness which showed our superiority. We must still, however, pursue our course of strict neutrality with regard to the affair.

THE LATE MR. HERBERT INGHAM, M.P.—An elegant but unostentatious monument has been erected in the cemetery, Boston, to the late lamented member and his son. It is of polished granite, in the form of an obelisk on a massive pedestal, and has been erected by the widow and mother of the two gentlemen whose melancholy deaths it commemorates.

COTTON CULTIVATION IN EGYPT.—The Cotton Supply Association is getting to work in Egypt. The principal hindrances are the want of labour and capital. Machinery must supplement the labour of the human hand, an advance to the natives will be one means of giving them capital, and stimulus too.

FRENCH AND ENGLISH RAILWAYS.—While the dividends of the great English lines are retrograding, French railway property is rapidly improving. The shares of the leading French line—the Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean—have advanced from 930fr. at which they stood in January, to upwards of 1000fr. now. In the same period the London and North-Western stock has receded from 101 to 91.

ROEBUCK.—Johnson says that one of the greatest advantages of a reputation for talent is the privilege it confers of talking nonsense. Mr. Roebuck has lately made very free use of this privilege—so much so, indeed, that people are beginning to ask whether he is not overdrawing his credit for intellect. If the speech delivered by him at Southampton on the occasion of the visit of the Austrian Archduke had been reported under another name, the common observation upon it would have been, that the speaker from his own mouth proved his proposition, that out of 650 members of Parliament there must be one fool. —*Examiner.*

THE POST-OFFICE EMPLOYEES.—A new scale of salaries for employés of the Post Office was recently issued, giving some slight advances on the rates of payment. These concessions, however, have not given satisfaction to the parties concerned—a meeting of persons engaged in that department of the public service being held on Wednesday evening, at which resolutions condemnatory of the new scale were adopted.

FATAL BOILER EXPLOSION.—A terrible accident, attended by fatal consequences to two persons, occurred at a steam sawmill in Devereil-street, Dover-road, on Saturday afternoon. While in full work and all the people on the premises, the boiler used for moving the machinery exploded with great violence, destroying all within range of its force. The engine-driver and his son, a lad twelve years of age, met with immediate death. Besides much damage to property, a number of persons have sustained serious injuries from the missiles sent flying in every direction. The cause of the catastrophe is not yet ascertained. At an inquest held on the bodies a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT TO AN EXCURSION PARTY.—The workmen of Messrs. Thorn, brewers, Nine Elms, went on Wednesday last week to enjoy a holiday at Hampton Court, when some of the party went on a boating excursion on the river. By an accident a boat was upset, and two men, named G. Bingham and H. H. H. were drowned. An inquest has been held, at which strong condemnation was expressed of the conduct of two publicans who had refused to allow the body of one of the sufferers to be taken into their houses in order to attempt resuscitation. Verdict, "Accidental death."

GENERAL M'DOWELL.

It would appear that the late disastrous retreat of the Federal troops at Bull Run was an occurrence beyond the control of Brigadier-General M'Dowell, to whom was intrusted the army of the North. With such material for officering the troops, and with men so little disciplined, it may be doubted whether any other result could have been assured by any General unless he had sufficient time allowed him to entirely reorganise the army, a vigorous effort towards which is now being made by General M'Clellan.

The *Times* correspondent reports that, notwithstanding the late reverse, he found General M'Dowell not inordinately cast down, but displaying the firm and modest bearing of a man who had done the best with such inefficient resources as had been placed under his command; indeed, there seems to be an opinion that the General is an officer of great military and scientific ability, and a first-rate strategist.

General M'Dowell is a native of Ohio, from which State he was appointed to a cadetship in the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1834. Immediately on his graduation, in 1838, he was promoted to the rank of Brevet Second Lieutenant. From September to November, 1841, he was Assistant Instructor in Tactics at West Point, and Adjutant to October, 1845; having been promoted to a First Lieutenant in 1842, and Aide-de-Camp to General Wool from 1845 to 1847, during which time he served actively in the Mexican War, and received the honorary rank of Brevet Captain for gallant conduct in the battle of Buena Vista, on the 23rd of February in the latter year. He was promoted to the post of Assistant Adjutant-General, with rank of Captain, in May, 1847, and relinquished rank in line in February, 1851; Assistant Adjutant-General, with the rank of Major, March 31, 1856; Brevet Brigadier-General, May, 1861; and is now in command of a division of the United States' troops in Virginia.

General M'Dowell remains in command of the troops at Arlington, although serious accusations have been made against him in the papers, most, if not all, of which were quite unfounded. What could he do with the materials he had, except, as the President said, "drive the locomotive as he found it?" Granted bravery, heroism, devotion, and all that kind of thing, what could be expected of an army thus described in a New York paper:—"In one of our regiments, while the Colonel was on trial for drunkenness, the Major lay drunk in his tent, and the Lieutenant-Colonel was so intoxicated at evening drill that he had to stagger up to the Adjutant, and request him to give the orders?"

The General's official report of the battle at Bull Run gives a total list of 19 officers and 462 men killed, 64 officers and 917 men wounded, 40 officers and 1176 men missing. At the Bull Run battle the artillery lost was six rifled pieces of company D; six Parrott 10-pounders of company 3, 1st Artillery; two rifled cannon and two howitzers of company E, 2nd Artillery; one cannon, 5th Artillery; one 30-pounder Parrott gun, company G, 1st Artillery; five pieces Rhode Island battery; also 100 boxes of cartridges, 87 boxes of rifled cannon ammunition, 30 boxes of old firearms, thirteen loaded provision-waggons; 3000 bushels of oats, 2500 muskets, 8000 knapsacks and blankets.



MAJOR-GENERAL M'DOWELL, COMMANDER OF THE FEDERAL ARMY AT THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN.

THE BATTLE AT BULL RUN.

Our Engravings represent scenes which illustrate episodes in this most extraordinary retreat, the details of which have already found

a place in our columns. What was the origin of the alarm that cavalry were coming it is difficult to conjecture, since it is utterly denied that the arrival of any cavalry whatever caused the stampede, which was as disastrous to the Northern as it was surprising to the Southern troops.

Until very lately the newspapers of America have contained accounts of the actual troops of "black horse" which were gallantly met by the Zouaves, who, according to the story of one of their Lieutenants, shattered and broke up the cavalry.

The account given by a private letter indorses this account, and declares that the "brave firemen" received the black horse "upon their poised bayonets," and "fought to the death," crying "Remember Ellsworth!"

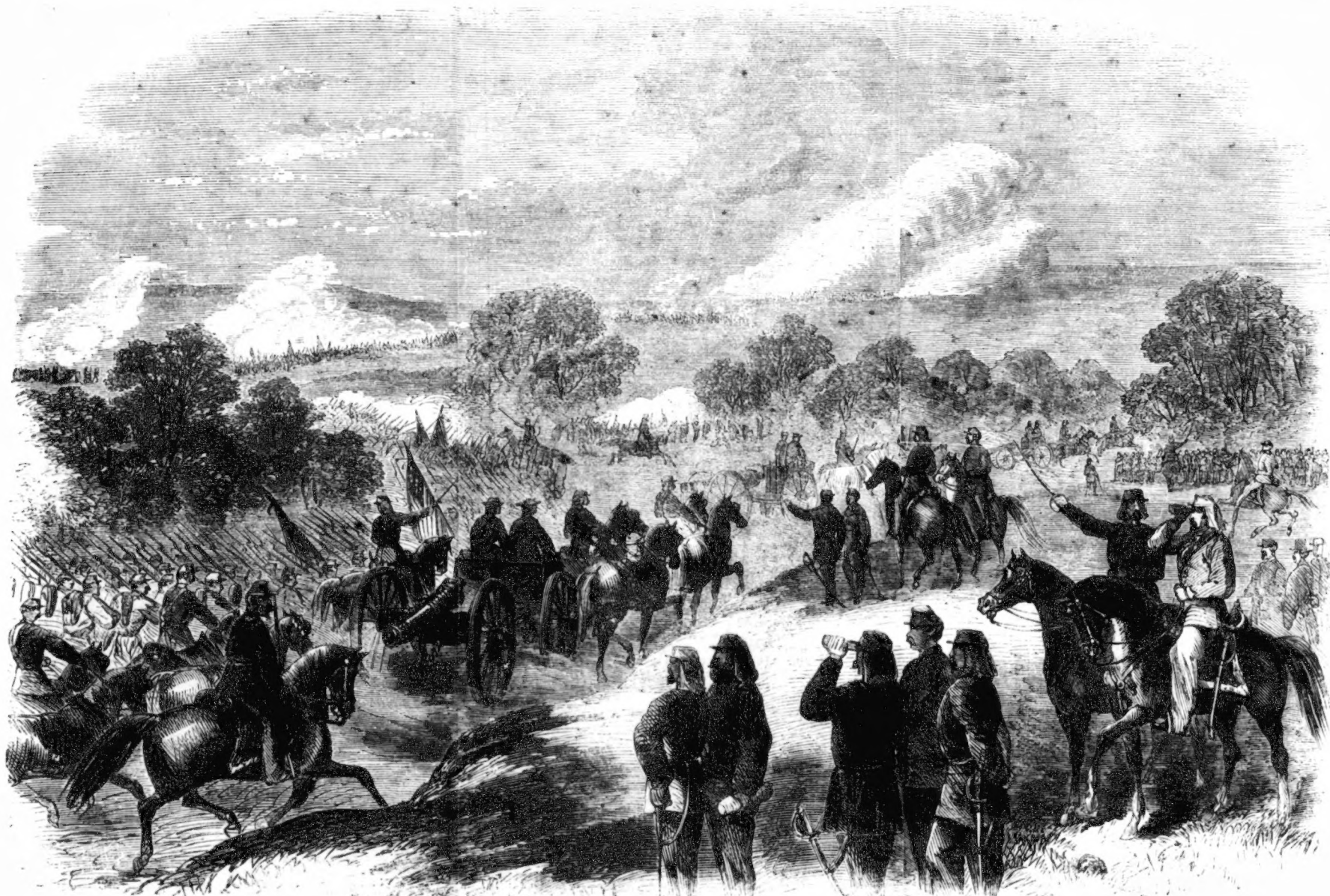
To most of these reports we have the direct contradiction of the *Times* correspondent, who represents that there was no hand-to-hand engagement whatever, and no sign of any attack by a body of cavalry, which was purely an imaginary terror. Whatever may have been the cause of the fright, there is no doubt that an absolute panic seized the Northern troops, and that it will be long before they recover their lost prestige, unless under a new and determined organisation.

"THE INVENTOR."

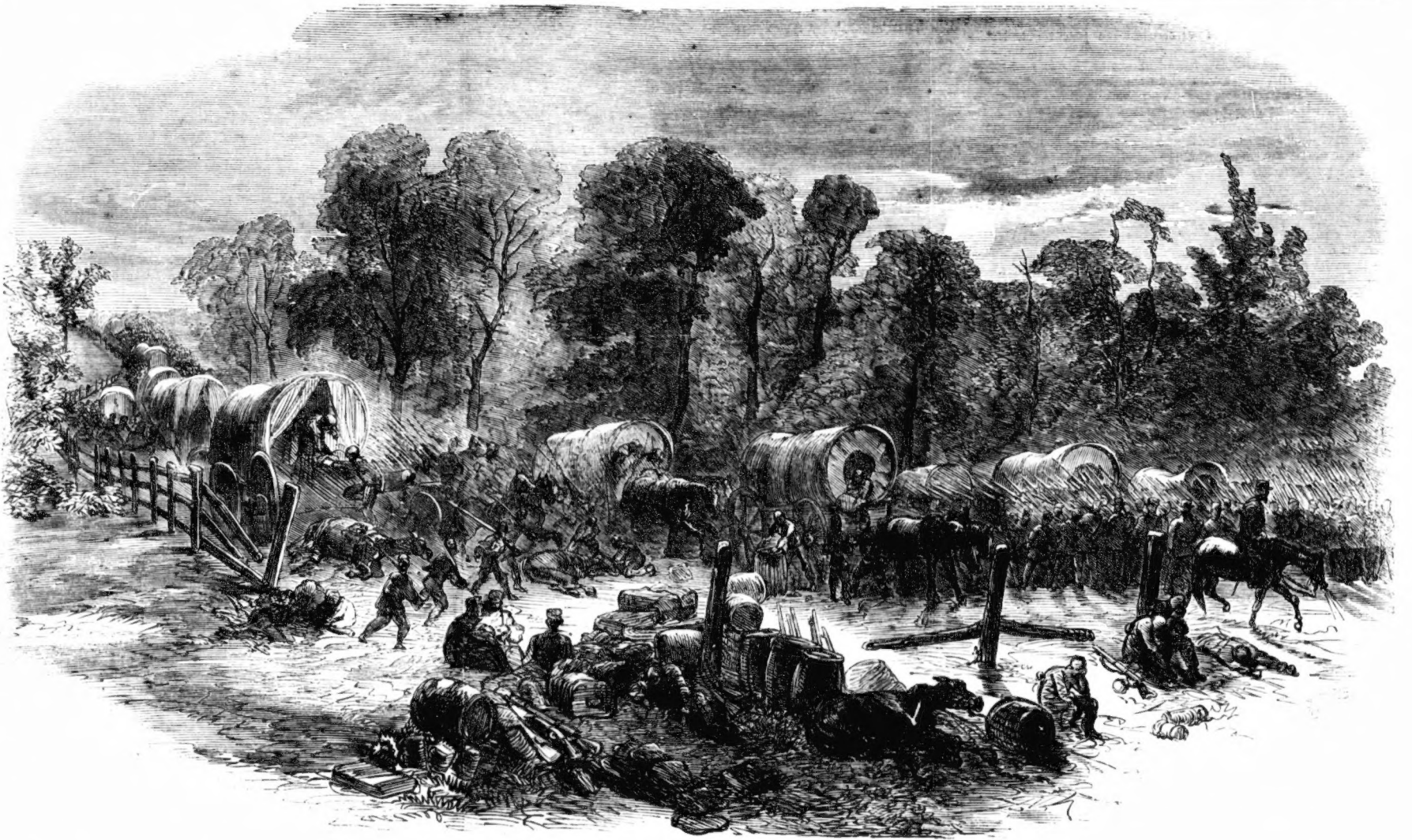
THERE has been a great deal said, sung, and written about the "dignity of labour;" and, while there can be no doubt that honest work is the true and noble condition to which every man should attain, whatever may be his wealth, rank, or station, it may be fairly questioned whether the mere phrase, "dignity of labour," has not come to mean very little, since it has too often been used as a cant sentiment—easy to remember, and glibly uttered—at such meetings as have "the working man" for their avowed object, but the advantage of Mr. Somebody—who contrives to make a pretty good thing out of the working man—for their ultimate intention.

The true dignity of labour, however, is, after all, the right use and due performance of the work that lies nearest to every man—the intelligence that ennobles every occupation by making it only the means for attaining something higher and better. We have had the story told over and over again in the lives of men who have raised both themselves and their fellows by the power of intelligent labour; and now we have the same history told at a glance in the picture from which our Illustration is taken.

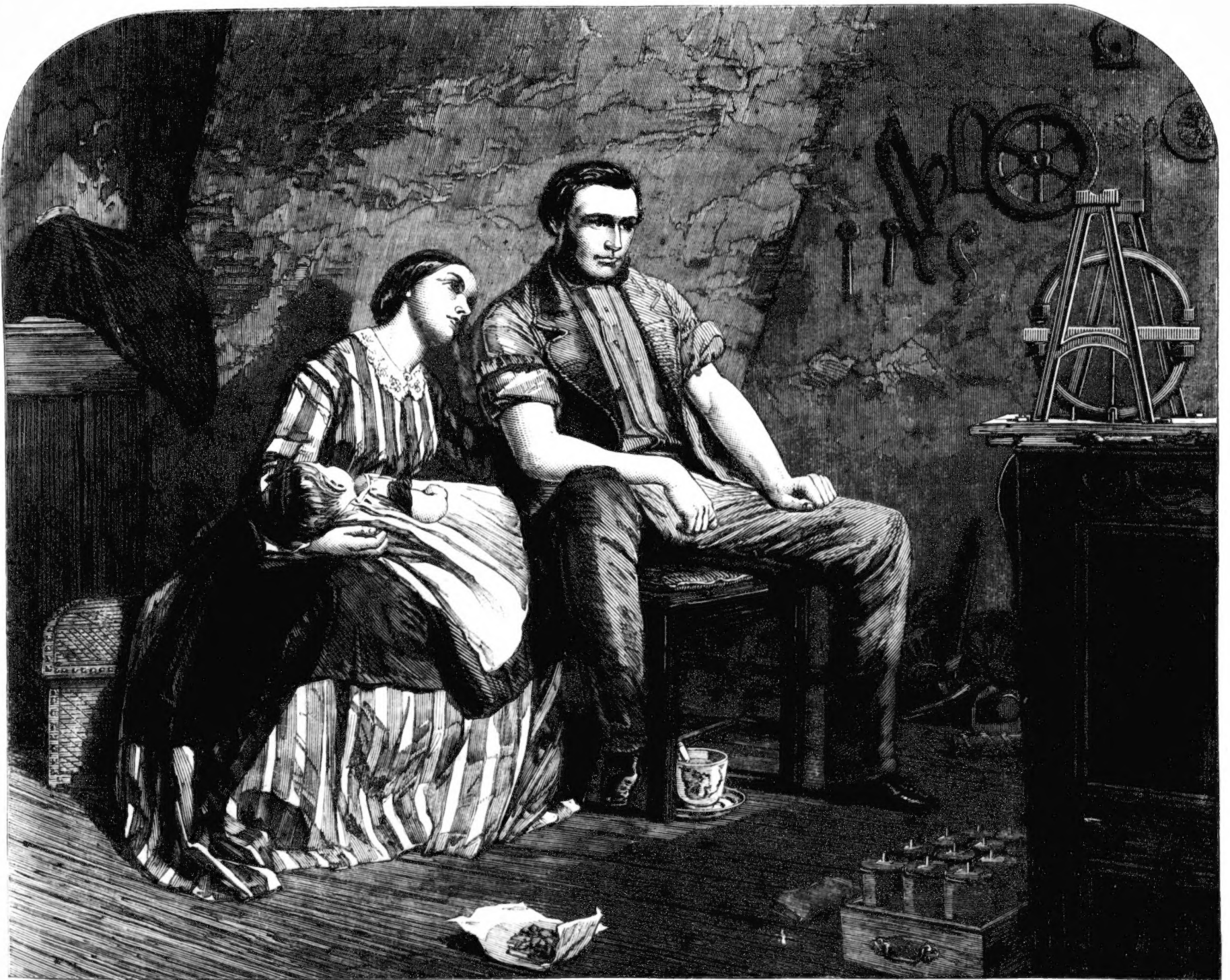
The "Inventor" himself is evidently of the stuff of which men are made. His is not the face and brow over which, bemuddling beer asserts the "rights of labour," and means, without knowing it, the opportunity for being idle. He has already secured for himself and his little family a position which surrounds his home with the comforts and even the elegancies of life; for he is only in his work-room, study, den, as we see him—the place where some of his afterwork hours are passed, and where something will one day grow into shape that will surprise and benefit the world. Even his wife, who has crept up stairs with the baby, and now sits down beside him full of faith in his cleverness, but not knowing what he means to do, is almost unnoticed in the brown study into which he has fallen. And well he may be lost, for the problem



THE BATTLE OF BULL RUN.



THE RETREAT OF THE FEDERAL TROOPS FROM BULL RUN.



"THE L. VENTOR" - (FROM A PICTURE, BY C. S. LIDDERDALE, IN THE RECENT ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.)

that occupies that busy brain is one which may perplex the minds of workmen and professors for many a long day before it bears practical results. It is the problem of electro-motive power—electricity applied to mechanism.

We need say little of the treatment of the picture in an artistic sense; it is a story faithfully told, and all the accessories of the scene are true to the incident represented. The tools that hang upon the walls; the evidently home-made battery upon the floor; the eager pursuit which has left the workman no time to change his working dress before having "another try" at his cherished experiment, all denote the true artistic perception which appreciates life in its springs of action, and perpetuates them as a lesson or a story to influence humanity.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. DEBRANCE, LINCOLN.—The paragraph in question was copied from *Galvani*, through the London papers. A mistake seems to have been made in translation, the real weight of the stone probably being about 35 tons, and not 135.

ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24, 1861.

AN EXCURSION TRAIN.

THE "excursion-train" has become a national institution. Of course it originated in a speculative experiment. If this had not succeeded, it would never have been followed up as it has been by all the railways in the kingdom. We must be justified, therefore, in assuming that the railway companies find their account in these cheap return-trips, and that the opportunities for these journeys are not afforded merely in charity to the poorer portion of the public, after the manner in which cold scraps are given away at Lambeth Palace gate, after an Archbishop's banquet. Neither the railway companies nor the passengers have anything to thank the other for. The transaction is simply a commercial one on each side. This cannot be too well understood.

That the excursion-train pays, is proved by the fact of its continuance. That the companies desire passengers—that is to say, customers—is shown by their repeated advertisements. Why, therefore, should these customers, when once caught, be regarded no longer as patrons but in the light of enemies, interlopers, objects of charity, niggards, rogues, and vagabonds? Why should they be delayed, insulted, inconvenienced, starved, or "droughted" (if we may be allowed to coin a word to express compulsory thirst) more than any other customer by any other ordinary conveyance?

We will show that, as a rule, excursionists are so treated. In the first place, at the instant of paying his money the "excursionist" receives his first insult. A ticket is given him on which is announced in print that it is not transferable, and that, should he part with it, he and any one to whom he may transfer it will be liable to criminal proceedings for fraud. Fraud, indeed! Suppose our tailor were to send home a coat with a similar inscription on the lining, should we not laugh at his impudence and folly? That which a man has bought and paid for, whether a property in possession or a mere right, the law allows him to sell again, according to the doctrine of the plainest common sense. Where is the fraud in inducing the company to bring back B. instead of A.? True, the conditions of the contract may be so; then the company may decline to fulfil it afterwards, or may sue A. for his breach. But why, as a mere commercial matter, and from the standpoint of a counter transaction, affix such a condition to the contract at all? This is the way to look at the case, on a broader principle even, than the legal one to which we have alluded. We know as well as the companies can tell us that magistrates, and even a Judge, have taken the opposite view of the legal aspect of the case; but we also know that weak and insupportable decisions have often before now been delivered by equally high authorities and set aside by higher, and this "fraud" in the transfer of railway tickets is not a matter to stand a strong light. The more prosecutions for such "frauds," the less people will like excursion-trains. Travellers may be accused of fraud by mistake, and serious consequences may result to both parties.

In these excursion-trains the comfort of travellers is not studied with that ordinary attention the lack of which in a common train would call forth loud public remonstrance. The time of arrival on the return journey is never specified, and the excursion-train usually comes into town, after a disgracefully slow journey, somewhere about midnight. We have more than once in a happily limited experience known it arrive far among the small hours. On one line especially the directors habitually run a Sunday train, and when this arrives at about half past ten the passengers are kept in the carriages at the station until past eleven, so that they may get no refreshment. Now, this is simply shameful hypocrisy, and nothing better. If the directors are so Sabbatarian in their views, why run Sunday trains at all? To take a working man some scores of miles on a Sunday for the sake of his half-crown, and to imprison him for fear he should wickedly take a pint of beer after the journey, is a combination of Plutus and Mawworm which presents anything but an agreeable or wholesome aspect.

One word as to the refreshment departments in connection with the "excursions." When an ordinary traveller complains of the exorbitant charges at Swindledom station, he is reminded that an extensive establishment has to be kept up for an inconstant supply of a few customers. With an excursion-train this is not so. The customers on these occasions may be numbered by hundreds, and might be by thousands, were a more rational tariff and decent refreshments provided. But we write these lines in vivid and recent recollection of a mechanic's wife who, with an infant at her breast, sought a bottle of lemonade, and was charged two shillings for it at a

certain notorious station at which she had been landed for "refreshment" by an excursion-train.

We would lay these matters before railway companies in all good will. Their interests and those of the public are, after all, identical. Supply a good article cheaply, and, if multiplicity of customers will make the affair pay, any purveyor may obtain it. But hold out inducements, to be carried out in a mean and illiberal spirit, abiding to the letter in favour of the seller, and insulting the buyer with threats of criminal proceedings as soon as you have touched his money, and, earlier or later, the matter will get noised about, and your shop will become unpopular, whether it be a chandlery or a railway station.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

PRINCE ALFRED arrived at Liverpool in the *Arabia* on Saturday evening, and at once proceeded to London, en route for Osborne to join his Royal parents.

THE MARRIAGE of the Marquis of Bath to the Hon. Miss Vesey, daughter of Viscount and Viscountess de Vesci, was solemnised on Tuesday last at St. James's Church, Piccadilly.

THOMAS WILLIAM ATKINSON, Esq., F.R.G.S., F.G.S., for many years a traveller in Central Asia, and author of "Travels in Siberia and on the Amoor," died in Lower Walmer, Kent, on the 13th inst.

THE MORTAL REMAINS of MME. CATHERINE HAYES were deposited in a vault at Kensal-green Cemetery on Saturday last.

A LADY of TITLE made a most successful debut at the Strand Theatre, last week, under the title of Mrs. St. Henry, as Lady Teazle, in two scenes from "The School for Scandal," for the benefit of Mrs. C. Selby, of whom she is a pupil.

THE REMAINS of the COUNTS of NEWBURN were interred at Chichester on Friday (last week).

A LETTER in the *Frankfort Journal* states that Struve, the well-known German democrat, was killed at the battle of Bull Run, where he commanded a Federalist company.

CHRISTINA, Queen-Mother of Spain, and her husband, who have been on a visit to England, and resided for some time at Brighton, left Folkestone on Tuesday morning for Boulogne, en route for Rome.

A NEW STREET TRAMWAY from the Westminster-road to Kennington Park was opened on Monday.

IT IS STATED THAT MR. ENGLISH, Chief Constable of Leeds, is about to bring the circumstances attending the assault lately committed upon him before a legal tribunal.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE broke out in South Shields on Sunday morning, which did damage, it is said, to the extent of £10,000.

IT IS STATED THAT the Duke of Buckingham's life was insured for £300,000.

SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON is said to receive 100 guineas for each weekly instalment of his "Strange Story" in "All the Year Round."

THE REV. ALFRED POOLE has been licensed by the Bishop of Winchester to the perpetual curacy of Parbrook, in the county of Southampton.

ANOTHER COMET is REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN OBSERVED within the last few days, whose right ascension is 13h. 54m., and declination 47 deg., and which appears to be rapidly approaching the earth.

MR. BRASSKY, the Liberal candidate for Birkenhead, has given in his adhesion to the ballot.

LAST WEEK A MOSS-HILL, situated about two miles from the Slamanian Railway Station, and measuring about thirty acres, was lifted by the spate, and carried to the distance of 500 yards.

A MEMBER of the SALFORD VOLUNTEER CORPS has been expelled by a court of inquiry for "insubordination and disrespectful conduct" to an officer.

THE FRENCH JOCKEY CLUB has declined striking out the Baron de Vidil's name from their list, and several members of the aristocracy have consequently resigned.

THREE BATTERIES of ROYAL ARTILLERY have been ordered from India to Canada. The force will proceed overland upwards of 1000 miles. 200 horses for the Royal Artillery are on passage for Canada.

TWO BOYS quarrelled the other day, at Tipton, about a pistol, and in a struggle which ensued it went off and caused the death of one of them.

A CONVICT in Auburn Prison, U.S., has been detected in making counterfeit coin in his cell; he had also manufactured a complete kit of burglar's implements.

THE BISHOP of CHESTER authoritatively contradicts the report that the Dowager Duchess of Sutherland has succeeded to the Church of Rome.

A RACHEL LEVISON, who appeared in the London Insolvent Court last week, described herself as "an enameller of ladies' faces."

MR VINCENT NOVELLO, well known for his efforts to popularise music in this country, died at Nice on the 9th inst.

THE WELSH Eisteddfod was held last week at Conway, and passed off very successfully.

ABOUT 1000 of THE WORKING CLASSES of Bury, Lancashire, visited Hampton-in-Arden, the seat of Mr. F. Peel, near Coventry, on Monday, by invitation of the right hon. gentleman.

SIR JOHN BOWRING, who has recently been suffering from severe indisposition, is reported to be somewhat better.

WILLIAM BAINEBRIDGE, a schoolmaster at Chesterton, has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, for beating a boy unmercifully with a cane.

DR. C. WATT, a chemist of considerable celebrity, in his experiments on malt and hops, has discovered a method of producing ale perfectly colourless.

A MAN and WOMAN, fashionably attired, have been sent to the House of Correction for a month for imposing upon the benevolent and wealthy people of Hawkeshead by false appeals on behalf of charitable objects.

TWO CHILDREN were killed at Manchester, last week, by the fall of a wall, caused by a cart running against it.

MR T. R. O'WALD, iron shipbuilder, Sunderland, has failed, with liabilities estimated at £60,000 to £70,000. By this stoppage 800 workmen have been thrown out of employment.

JANE CHRISTY, claiming to be the wife of Captain Christy, transported for rascality to sea on a voyage from New York, has died at Wolverhampton from injuries received from a man named Clarke, with whom she was cohabiting.

A ROMAN recently returned home unexpectedly and found a man in bed with his wife. The paramour fled to the roof, the husband followed; a struggle ensued, and both fell into the street below. The husband was killed, and the other is not likely to survive.

A CAVALRY COMPANY composed of YOUNG LADIES has recently been formed at Pittsfield, Mass., under the name of "Di Vernon Phalanx." Miss Pinkie Pomeroy is the Captain and Miss Anna Kipp is the Lieutenant.

JOHN DALLIS, a Dewsbury merchant, charged with obtaining £12,000 worth of goods within three months of his bankruptcy, has been committed for trial.

TWO WOMEN QUARRELLED and FOUGHT in a ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL at Bristol last week. The police had to put a stop to the disgraceful scene.

AT BADEN-BADEN the season has been unusually brilliant—no less than 20,807 guests having been lodged and catered for by the good people of that place.

A YOUNG LADY enlisted for the war at Lafayette, Indiana, but, as "able-bodied men" only had been asked for, the war, on being discovered, invited to leave the ranks and deliver up her regimentals.

THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY has declared a dividend of 4 per cent.

THE VIENNA WAR OFFICE is said to be engaged in wedding from the regiments in Hungary all officers not known to be devoted to Austrian interests.

M. D'ALBERT, of London, has challenged Blonin for £500 to cross the valley at Matlock, from the High Tor to the Heights of Abraham, on a tight-rope 4000 feet long and 700 feet high.

MR. GLADSTONE and MR. CARDWELL both voted for Mr. Cheetham in South Lancashire—the former at Liverpool and the latter at Bury.

THE SHIP TAM O'SHANTER, bound from the Humber to Damerara, has been totally destroyed by fire at sea. The crew were saved.

MR. CHARLES BEARD, landlord of the King's Arms public-house, Parker-street, Drury-lane, threw himself from a window of his house the other day, while suffering under a partial attack of delirium tremens, and was killed.

ON SATURDAY the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred by Trinity College, Dublin, on Lord Brougham, Sir John George Shaw Lefevre, Sir James Emerson Tennent, and M. Michel Chevalier.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

"If any one had told me twenty years ago that I should have ever been in my present position, I would not have believed it," is a formula which most of us have to utter in this world of startling changes and surprises, and I think that Mr. Roebuck must have often given utterance to it of late; for if any one had foretold that some day he would be the laudator of the Emperor of Austria, closely connected with such a concern as the Galway Packet Company, and the defender of the packet subsidy, would we have believed the prophecy? Rather, I fancy, he would have wrathfully exclaimed, "Is thy servant a dog, that I should do this thing?" And yet it is so. For a long time Mr. Roebuck has been more or less directly connected with the "Galway sham;" last Session nothing excited his ire more than a suspicion thrown out that the subsidy was a job; and twice he has appealed before the public as the friend of the house of Hapsburg. Now, I do not for a moment suspect that Mr. Roebuck has swerved from his integrity. I have always believed in his honesty, and even now my faith is not disturbed. But these connections are, to say the least of them, passing strange. And now, in default of other topics of talk, I will give a compendious account of certain proceedings relative to the North American mail service. When the Whigs went out of office in 1858, they left upon the books of the Treasury a minute to the effect that the time had come when it would be right, as opportunity offered, to stop the practice of giving a subsidy for carrying the mails to North America, and an application from Sir Samuel Cunard for a renewal of his contract, which had several years to run, had been peremptorily refused. This policy of the Whig Government had received the sanction of the Post Office department, and was in harmony with the recommendation of a Commission or a Committee, I forget which, appointed to investigate the subject of these mail subsidies; and, further, a promise had been given to the Canadian Government that notice should be sent to them before fresh arrangements were made. The Canadian Government complained bitterly about these subsidies as injurious to the colony, encouraging as they do a diversion of traffic from Canada to New York and Boston. This is, then, how the matter stood when the Whigs went out, and there can be no doubt that if they had continued in power the subsidy would have been abolished, and the mails would have been thenceforth carried to America for the regular postal charges, without loss to the country. Indeed, the Canadian Packet Company, and a large, respectable, and successful Liverpool company, had offered to do this. But in February, 1858, the Whigs went out, and the Derby Government came in, and then all those prospective arrangements were overthrown. Before the spring of 1858 had passed, the Government, without reference to the Treasury minute, in direct opposition to the resolution of the aforesaid Committee or Commission, and without consulting the Post Office authorities or sending notice to the Canadian Government, granted a renewal of contract to Sir Samuel Cunard, and afterwards made a contract with the Galway Company. I have not the blue book at hand just now, and therefore cannot say what is the exact sum which the country has to pay for this departure from the plan laid down by Lord Palmerston's Government, but it is certainly not less than £75,000 a year. This, then, is a succinct account of this strange business. The motives of Lord Derby's Government I will not discuss here. It is alleged that the Galway subsidy was given with a view to develop Irish commerce. But what motive can be imagined for the renewal of the Cunard contract? However, the thing is done, and not only does "Tear'em" not fly upon the perpetrators of this job, but, if any one presumes to hint disapprobation, "Tear'em's" back is up, and his teeth are set in a moment, which I take to be a stranger fact than even the job itself. But, still I would not say that "Tear'em" is a traitor. As I have before said, I confidently believe in his integrity still. It is clear that he has not got a penny by the transaction, and equally patent, I think, that his object from the first was not gain. He must be under some strange hallucination, I imagine, which has taken his reason prisoner; and here I leave the matter as far as it affects Mr. Roebuck. I see by the papers that the Galway Company take it for granted that Lord Palmerston will next Session renew the contract. But they clearly have no right to argue thus. I heard Lord Palmerston's answer to Mr. Brady, and certainly there was nothing in that to inspire the confidence. Nothing could be more cautious than the wording of this reply; and, whilst it gave hopes that, if the company should next Session be able to show that it had the money and ships to carry out a contract, the Government might possibly feel disposed to renew it, it pledged the Government to nothing.

Lord Robert Montagu has been discoursing about count-outs. It will be remembered that last Session the noble Lord was himself counted out. It was when he was bringing before the House the knotty question of "the Duchies;" and hence his anger. His Lordship says that "count-outs" are generally arrangements made between the chiefs of both parties; but here he is mistaken, as he is in many other matters. Some years ago it was not uncommon for such arrangements to be made, and I have often seen both the Government and Opposition whips insidiously creeping about the House to persuade members to leave; but such conspiracies are seldom or never entered into now. I do not believe that Mr. Brand, the present Government chief whip, is ever a party to a count-out. The most that the leaders of the two parties can be charged with now is that they sometimes refuse "to keep a House," which is a very different thing to counting it out. And this was the case when Lord Robert was counted out. There were no active exertions made by the whips to count out the House, but they simply left it, and then, under the influence of the unattractive eloquence of the noble Lord, it died of itself. The noble Lord wants something to be done to prevent count-outs; but what can be done authoritatively I cannot conceive. You cannot compel members to stop if they are inclined to go. There are, it is true, ways which I could suggest to the noble Lord by which these count-outs might be effectually prevented; but then they would meet with no favour from the noble Lord. They are these:—First, "Let not our small men meddle with great subjects;" and, again, let no man, great or small, bring a trumpery matter before the House. If these rules were adopted, I am persuaded we should have no more count-outs. I have considerable experience in the House, and know its manners, customs, and modes of action well; and I venture to say that whenever we have a count-out, it is either when some incompetent man has proposed to deal with a great subject, or when some trumpery matter not worthy of the attention of the House is brought before it. I never knew a man of mark counted out. I mean here, of course, counted out in the early part of the evening. At two or three o'clock in the morning, when attempts were made to push important business through, I have known the Government itself counted out, and very properly. It was so when the Lord Advocate last Session tried to force his abominable Salmon Protection Bill through at three o'clock.

By-the-by, this Lord Advocate (Sir James Moncreiff, M.P. for Edinburgh) is getting the Government into almost as bad odour in Scotland as it is in Ireland. In the Session of 1860 he passed a bill to facilitate the collection of the annuity tax. It was, I believe, to be collected with the police tax, or, rather, was to be paid out of the police tax; and the measure is so unpopular that between 7000 and 8000 ratepayers have refused to pay the tax. Burke once said, "You cannot indict a nation;" and I fancy that the Lord Advocate will find that it is quite as difficult to restrain upon over 7000 inhabitants. It was an absurd and unprecedented thing to attempt to pay an ecclesiastical impost out of a police rate, but not more absurd than the attempt which this learned gentleman made this Session to compel every angler for salmon to take out a license.

AN ATTEMPT to LEVY A CHURCH RATE AT TAMWORTH has been defeated on technical legal grounds.

now at Kensington, but the power of the trustees of the National Gallery has been preserved over them; and it was publicly announced that they were removed to Kensington only as a temporary measure. That Turner died in December, 1851; and, in the opinion of this House, no further delay should take place in providing a room or rooms for the reception and exhibition of his pictures, and drawings, now the property of the nation, in connection with the National Gallery, to be called 'Turner's Gallery.' That it is expedient that the finished pictures by Turner should be forthwith deposited and properly hung in one of the rooms of the present National Gallery. But this arrangement, as it will necessarily involve considerable inconvenience in the exhibition of the pictures now in the National Gallery, must be considered as of a strictly temporary character, pending the execution of some more enlarged and comprehensive plan. That, with a view to provide such accommodation, Mr. Pennethorne, the architect, has stated in his evidence that he can undertake to erect rooms fully sufficient for the reception of the Turner pictures at the back of the present National Gallery, within a period of time not exceeding twelve months, and at a cost not to exceed £25,000. That, unless there is some reasonable prospect of seeing a noble gallery, worthy of the fine collection of pictures by the ancient masters and British artists which the country now possesses, and which is, year by year, receiving additions of great importance, erected upon a comprehensive plan on the present or any other site, it appears desirable that steps should be forthwith taken for making the limited addition to the present gallery suggested by Mr. Pennethorne."

By the force of circumstances, there has been formed outside the sovereignty of particular States a sort of public domain of civilisation, which the most solemn treaties have recognised. It is thus that the free navigation of certain rivers has been proclaimed, such as the Rhine and the Danube. It is thus that common relations between the most powerful Governments have declared neutral the ways of communication which are being or are to be constructed across certain great vicinities of universal interest, such as the Isthmus of Panama, the effect of which will be to place every railway or canal constructed on so important a line of passage on the footing of a universal property, of which the whole world shall at all times have the use upon conditions the same for all. It is thus that the payment established formerly by feudalism at very frequented passes, as the strait called the Sound, has been redeemed at their common charge by the combined action of all commercial peoples, through the payment, once for all of a certain sum. The character of these pieces of property of a new class, placed under the aegis of universal good faith, and, even at need, of the military forces of all nations, calls for a peculiar legislation. What extent ought this common domain of civilised nations to acquire? There is here ample matter for reflection; and for the association this will no doubt give occasion to useful labours, which will increase its renown and influence.

EXCURSION GUIDE-BOOKS

The Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Northern Railway, including the Manchester, Sheffield, Lincolnshire, and Midland Railways, &c.
By GEORGE MEASOM.

**The Official Illustrated Guide to the North-Eastern, North British,
 &c., Railways.** By GEORGE MEASOM.
 Published (under the authority of the Directors) by Griffin, Bohn,
 and Co.

Despite the opinion of the untraveller foreigner that England is a very dull place, there is no doubt that the land of reform and civil and religious liberty has scarcely an acre in it that is not worth looking at. Hence it is becoming, day by day, as the country becomes more crowded, a matter of greater importance to have the country systematised into routes for the convenience of sight-seers. Without disrespect to the construction of other handbooks, we certainly adhere the plan pursued by Mr. Meason in the two works before us—a couple of bulky volumes, crammed with letterpress and pictorial illustration, and to be obtained for the “homeropathic” (as Albert Smith used to call it) sum of one shilling each. The plan is all railway. The tourist has but to implore the assistance of the nearest waiter, or the good offices of the Commercial Traveller, to help him through the horrors of “Bradshaw,” and the journey may be commenced forthwith. England is now, as nearly as possible, all railway. There are but few places that cannot now be touched by Mrs. Browning’s “resonant steam-eagle.” It is possible to go from station to station, branch lines as well, just resting to make excursions right and left, and before long all the sights are seen, all the country explored. Taking Mr. Meason’s “Great Northern” volume, how simple it seems to gain at one station the pure domesticity of Hornsey, and then to speed yourself out, through main line and branches, into hundreds of places of historical and poetical interest, deemed unattainable for all but the very rich and the very adventurous even so late as some twenty years ago. By this arrangement the Great Northern includes the Eastern Counties of the Crownland association, at least), as well as the great places of the north—St. Neots and Huntingdon as well as Saffield and Manchester. The second or companion volume completes the north of England, and guides the traveller through as much of Scotland as can be accomplished. It starts from York, gets to Berwick-upon-Tweed, then takes the North British Railway on to Edinburgh, thence to Glasgow, Inverness, and Aberdeen. The plan of the volumes is excellent, and suitable for those intent on surveying the commercial grandeur of our country or simply desirous of cultivating the historical or the picturesque side. The cathedrals appear to be described, in their history and architecture with care and fidelity. More social matters have not been neglected, but triling matters of interest, little places loved of the curious, and the “habits, manners, and customs” of the hotels, are recorded with a kindly precision that gives a very practical value to the volumes. Various chapters, entitled “The Commercial Aspect of Manchester” (or of Edinburgh, as the case may be), are not the least important portions of these handbooks. They will, together with the legendary pages, prove, perhaps, the most interesting reading for travellers in the respective localities; and, as they are printed with sufficient clearness for everybody to read without inducing ophthalmia, we expect to see Mr. Meason’s agreeable compilations in the hands of thousands on thousands of autumnal travellers. In point of excellence and quantity in letterpress and in illustration, these two volumes are perfect marvels of mercantile enterprise. Not merely the traveller should turn to their pages; the confirmed victim of gout or ossification will find from them the relief of a pleasantly-occupied mind.

THE TURNER PICTURES.

order, that commerce shall be really easy and free between the different peoples, there are changes to make in the laws, regulations, and usages which each people adopted in other times, for in many circumstances those laws, regulations, and usages are obstacles to commercial transactions. There are like walls which separate men,—or, better still, like ditches sown with pitfalls and with landmines. Thus, for example, it is very plain that international transactions would be freed from serious difficulties if associations formed for commerce were placed upon models differing less from one another; if the associations recognized and authorized in one State possessed a legal existence in other States, with the faculty of enforcing their rights and supporting their interests before the tribunals of foreign countries; if the regulations relating to trade marks and the copyright of designs were in better agreement, and if the protection which commerce was extended to all the world, without distinction of nationality—In other words, in order that international commerce should be really and actively free and easy, it would be necessary that the character of foreigner be made to carry with it a sort of interdiction, which belongs no longer to the law, and from which each people suffers in its turn, with the consolation, the Christian or faithful though it be, of making its neighbor suffer afterwards from the same interdiction. The legislation of the different nations should be subjected to a calm and conscientious examination, setting out the principle that the foreigner ceases to be an enemy; that he is a fellow-consumer of our productions while offering us in return the right of disposing of his; that he is a fellow-citizen of that great country of which we make no long ago—Greece, of whom it is natural to think while we are by the side of Lord Brougham, and which has no other limits than the human intellect itself.

The following report has been made by the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider the best means of fulfilling the conditions annexed by the late Mr. Turner to the bequest of his pictures to the nation :—

the question which the different States are about to be brought to a decision of by the force of circumstances, and for the solution of which I am entitled to say that everything is already ripe. I allude to the uniformity of weights and measures, with which one ought to connect the uniformity of coin, for a coin is a measure. To name this question is to tend to make you understand in what degree it interests international commerce, what facility it is capable of giving to, what loss of time, without the making of various other charges, as, for example, the cost of exchange, it saves. You remember the story which has been often told of the traveler who entered Italy or Germany by one extremity, and who, getting his money changed at each frontier he passed, had not yet made his escape at the other extremity when already the whole value of his money had been lost by the exchanges. The uniformity of weights and measures is a necessary condition of free trade. It follows from it by the most natural and the most necessary process of deduction. On this subject there is this happy circumstance, that if one leaves out of consideration an unfounded self-love, and a habit of routine, which is often infinitely less commendable, one does not find what motive most nations can have for remaining attached to their present system of weights and measures. We ought every where to desire the adoption of a system which should be simple and logical, founded on the least proportion for its divisions, its subdivisions, and its multiples, and should derive all its units of measures alike, whether of length, area, volume, weight, or solidity, from a single standard by means of decimal

The Committee have met and considered the subject-matter referred to them, and have come to the following resolutions, viz.:—"That the late Mr. Turner, R.A., by his will, gave to the trustees of the National Gallery his picture of 'Dido Building Carthage' and his picture formerly in the De Tabley Collection, for ever, subject to the direction that they should be kept and placed always between the two pictures painted by Claude, 'The Seaport,' and 'The Mill,' and the right of the trustees to these pictures was declared by the decree after mentioned; and the two pictures have ever since been, and now are, placed in the National Gallery, between the two Claudes, according to Turner's will. That Mr. Turner made several codicils to his will. By the first codicil, which was superseded by the later ones, he desired a gallery to be erected for his pictures (except the two given by his will), and that they should be maintained and exhibited as a separate collection, to be called 'Turner's Gallery.' By the second codicil he gave his finished pictures (except the 'Dido' and the 'De Tabley' pictures) to the trustees of the National Gallery, provided that a room or rooms were added to the National Gallery, to be entitled 'Turner's Gallery'; in the meantime they were not to be removed until rooms were built, the trustees of the National Gallery were not to have any power over the pictures unless his wish was fully carried out by them; it was his will that either such pictures should remain and be called 'Turner's Gallery,' and be the property of the nation, or to remain at his house as one entire gallery, to be viewed gratuitously; if the lease could not be renewed the pictures were to be sold. By the third codicil, if the National Gallery should not carry out the provisions in the second codicil within five years, on or before the expiration of the lease of his present gallery, then he declared his bequest to the National Gallery to be void, and in that case his gallery to be continued upon the terms mentioned in his last codicil. By the fourth and last codicil he limited ten years for exhibiting his finished pictures to the National Gallery; if rooms were not built the pictures were to be exhibited gratuitously during the existence of the lease of his Queen Anne-street house, except the last two years, and then the pictures were to be sold. By the decree of the Court of Chancery, made in March, 1856, the Court declared that all the pictures, drawings, and sketches, wholly or partially by the testator's hand, without any distinction of finished or unfinished, were to be deemed as given for the benefit of the public, and were to be retained by the trustees for the time being of the National Gallery. That, under the above testamentary dispositions and the decree of the Court of Chancery, the nation is now in possession of 362 pictures painted by Turner, and of a very large number of water-colour drawings of the highest excellence, and the nation ought, in the opinion of this House, to carry out the conditions annexed to the gift in like manner as the conditions annexed to the gift of the two pictures now between the two Claudes have been complied with. That, for want of a room to receive them at the National Gallery, the pictures are

The trustees of the National Gallery, we are informed, have resolved at once to remove the 120 pictures by Turner from the Kensington Gallery to Trafalgar-square, so that the terms of Turner's bequest, and the recommendation of the above report, will be complied with, and thus secure the valuable collection to the nation.

been added to the national collection in Trafalgar-square. Two are examples by the early Tuscan painter, Filippo Lippi. One of these, a graceful representation of the Annunciation, has been presented to the gallery by the director, Sir Charles Eastlake. The companion picture, which had found its way into the gallery of the well-known collector, Mr. Alexander Barker, has been purchased from that gentleman, and judiciously restored to its former place beside the other. This picture is entitled "St. John the Baptist with Six other Saints." The gallery is now possessed of an unusual number and variety of works from the pencil of Filippo Lippi. "St. Sebastian, St. Rock, and St. Demetrius," by G. B. Benvenuti, commonly called Orotolano, the text work in importance, is the more interesting from the fact that but a very small number of the painter's works are known to connoisseurs. Orotolano belonged to the Ferrarese school. The next picture we have to mention is entitled "The Beato Ferretti." It is by Carlo Crevelli, an early master of the Venetian school. The chief of Crevelli's pictures are remarkable for their earnest and devout character, and the present specimen has the usual characteristics. A dignified, thoughtful portrait of a "Knight of Malta," by Jacopo da Pontormo, completes the list. This is also an excellent and rare example of painting, quite worthy of the place of honour assigned it among the masterpieces in the new room. This picture has been presented to the collection by G. F. Watts, the artist who painted the scenes in Lincoln's Inn.

among the candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Letters during the present academical session in that city is a young lady, who, being compelled by a reverse of fortune to become a governess, has had the perseverance to carry her studies much farther than usual for her sex. She passed through the first examinations with great credit, and there is every probability that she will be the first *bachelorette* admitted by the University of France.

APPELDURCOMBE HOUSE, in the Isle of Wight, stands in a splendid park at the foot of a lofty, conical down, and in the midst of wide stretches of meadow and arable land, broken up here and there by picturesque clumps of trees, a running stream, a cluster of modest cottages, and an ancient spire. Its position is indicated by its name, *Y pul der y cwm* (British), "the pool of water in the valley." The park is extensive, well wooded, and agreeably diversified. The mansion is a large building of the Corinthian order, with projecting wings, a colonnade, and dull, uniform windows. It once possessed an admirable collection of pictures and sculptures, chiefly formed by Sir Richard Worsley, Governor of the island, "in the days when George III. was King," and augmented by the first Earl of Yarborough. In 1855 the collection was sold and the house dismantled by the present Earl, who, however, reserved for his own admirable gallery some of the finest paintings. The house and park then passed into the hands of Mr. Wynne Williams, and was afterwards purchased by a joint stock company, who converted it into a monster hotel, with what success may be gathered from the fact that the company made its appearance in the Bankruptcy Court during the present week, when the solicitor announced that all its capital was lost, and that its effects were about to be dispersed by the hammer of the auctioneer.

The building of which we are now speaking does not possess the charm of antiquity. It occupies the site of an older house pulled down by Sir Robert Worsley, 1680-1719, a Tudor structure, with a many-gabled roof, a chapel, a bowling-green, and other adjuncts common to those picturesque old piles in which our ancestors rejoiced. Nevertheless, there is a certain air of statelyness about it, and, as it were, a sedate masiveness, which favourably impress the stranger, and compels him to own it a courtly residence for an English gentleman of good estate.

Appuldurcombe in 1539 received a goodly company within its walls. Bluff King Hal came there a hawking, and honoured with his presence the hospitable board of Master Richard Worsley, his Captain of the Isle of Wight. Cromwell, his Minister, and apparently his trusty councillor, accompanied him; and others of the Court of Mr. Froude's hero were in the Royal train. Merrily enough, we doubt not, rang the horn of the Royal huntsman through the bany glades and leafy depths of Appuldurcombe.

Shortly after the Norman Conquest, when the island had become the fief of the heir of stout William Fitz-Osbert, Count of Hereford, some Norman monks established here a small priory in connection with the Abbey of Montebourg, in Normandy—a prior and two monks looking after the rich lands bestowed upon the abbey by Baldwin de Redvers. The priory shared the common fate of all the alien religious houses in the reign of Henry IV., and was bestowed, with its demesnes, upon the Abbess and Nunnery of St. Clare without Aldgate, in the city of London, who leased them to the family of Fry. "The last of the Frys" left a widow, Agnes, who wedded Sir John Leigh, and had issue a daughter and heiress, Joan, afterwards the wife of Sir James Worsley, page to Henry VII., and the founder of the Worsleys of Appuldurcombe.

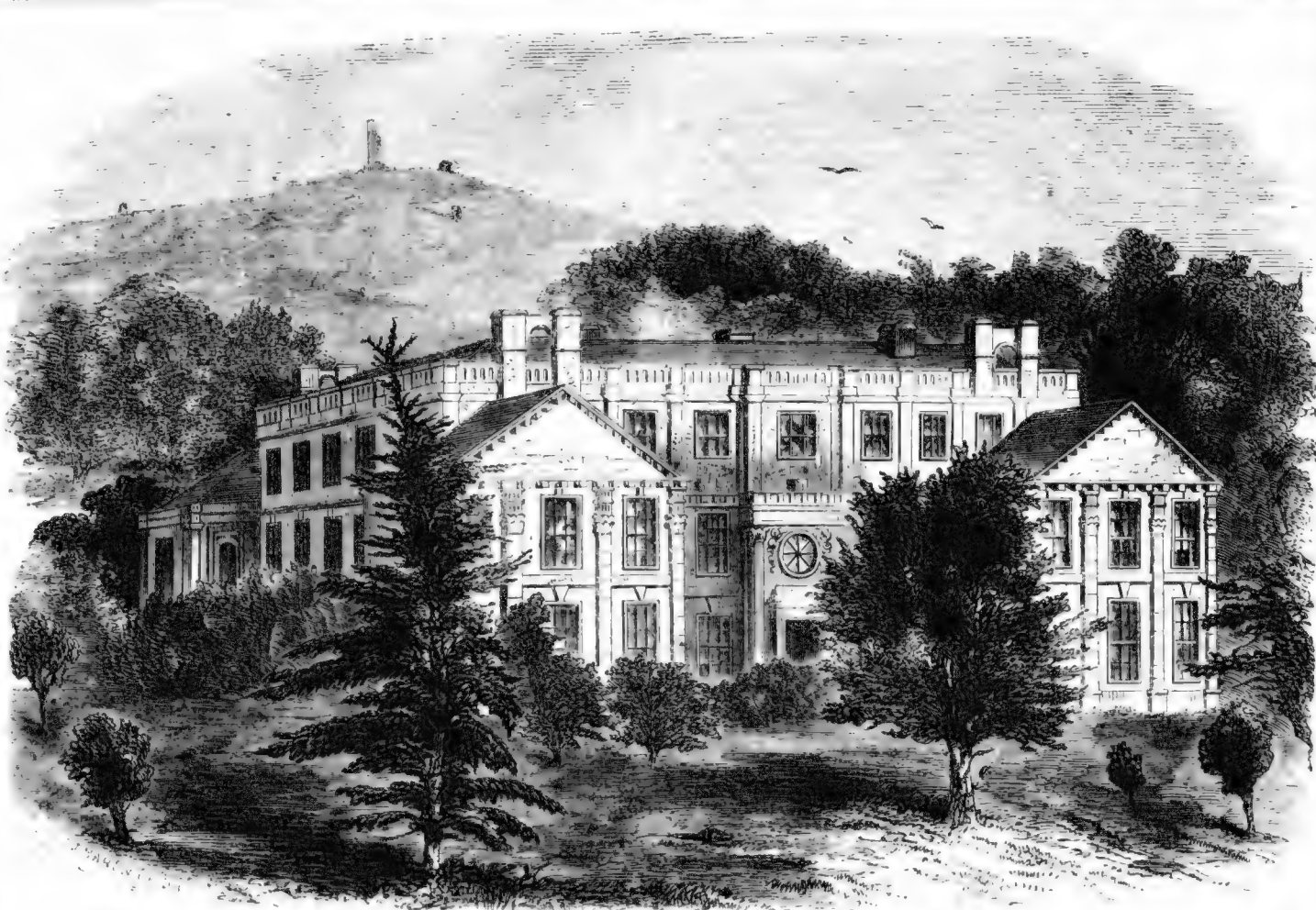
In the immediate vicinity of this interesting estate the most noticeable objects are Cook's Castle, a sham ruin, erected on the brink of a chalky precipice, so as to form a picturesque feature in the landscape; the ruins of a granite obelisk, formerly 70 ft in height, erected by Sir Richard Worsley in memory of Sir Robert (the builder of the modern Appuldurcombe) in 1774, and struck by lightning about thirty years ago; and upon the summit of Appuldurcombe an elegant column, raised by one Michael Hay in 1814, in commemoration of the visit to England of Alexander, the Czar of all the Russias. The base of the pillar is now ornamented with a plain tablet bearing an inscription in honour of the heroic men who fell in the disastrous Crimean War.

DRUIDICAL REMAINS IN THE ISLE OF LEWIS. N.B.

(From a Correspondent)

As time and space become more and more concentrated by the magic power of steam, fresh fields are continually offering themselves for the explorations of all lovers of "Auld lang syne," and remote regions teeming with wildness, beauty, and antiquarian interest may be gained with an ease and at a cost which would astonish those who are not in the secret of "how to go about it." This autumn I pen-

trated to the Atlantic coast of the Hebrides in search of druidical remains, where their name is legion; and, as an illustration of the many curiosities of the Isle of Lewis, I send you a Sketch of the Standing Stones of Callanish, on the western coast thereof, which for completeness and general interest appear to me to be only second to Stonehenge. They are forty-three in number, arranged in a cruciform manner, with a circle at the intersection, from which the wings radiate. They extend north and south 600 ft. in the line corresponding with the long leg of the cross; the transverse line at right angles to the other measures 200 feet from east to west. Both measurements include the circle, 63 ft. in diameter, which consists of thirteen stones, besides an enormous block towering in the centre: the several arms of the cross are formed by avenues of majestic white stones standing upright with a contour which conveys an irresistible idea that they once represented warrior giants. Recently the moss accumulated about their bases was cleared out to a depth of 8 ft. by order of the proprietor of the island, Sir James Matheson, when in front of the huge central stone was found two stone-built chambers measuring respectively 4 ft. 4 in. by 2 ft. 2 in., and 6 ft. 9 in. by 4 ft. 3 in. Above the latter there lies a large altar-stone supported



APPULDURCOMBE HOUSE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

by two upright blocks. In these chambers were found bones and beach stones. Viewed from a distance, towering on an eminence against the western horizon, these stones resemble a conclave of giants, or what superstition would have them, a cluster of petrified Fingalians, who had thus been transformed on hearing

according to Himerius, made his appearance in Athens in the ancient Hebridean garb and armour, "holding a bow, having a quiver hanging from his shoulders—having a plaid girt about his loins with a gilded belt, and wearing trousers reaching from the soles of his feet to his waist."

some startling intelligence. They are now generally styled "Ferblreige" or "False-man." It is a remarkable coincidence that similar remains exist in Ireland on the Callan Mountain, a designation which philologists have defined to mean the "Hill of the altar of the sun." By parity of interpretation, Callanish, the site of the Lewis Temple signifies the "Headland of the altar of the sun." Toland has argued with much ingenuity that, while Iceland was [the "Thule" of] Ptolemy, and the Shetland Isles the "Thule" of Tacitus, the Northern Hebrides were the hyperborean Island of Diodorus Siculus, which he describes as situated on the border of the Cronian, or Northern Ocean, somewhat less than Sicily, singularly temperate in climate, and containing a circular winged temple dedicated to Apollo, i.e., Belenus, the sun, a Celtic divinity, of which Abaris, the disciple and friend of Pythagoras, was Arch-druidic Pontiff. This celebrated hyperborean Druid,



REMAINS OF A DRUIDICAL TEMPLE IN THE ISLE OF LEWIS, N.E.

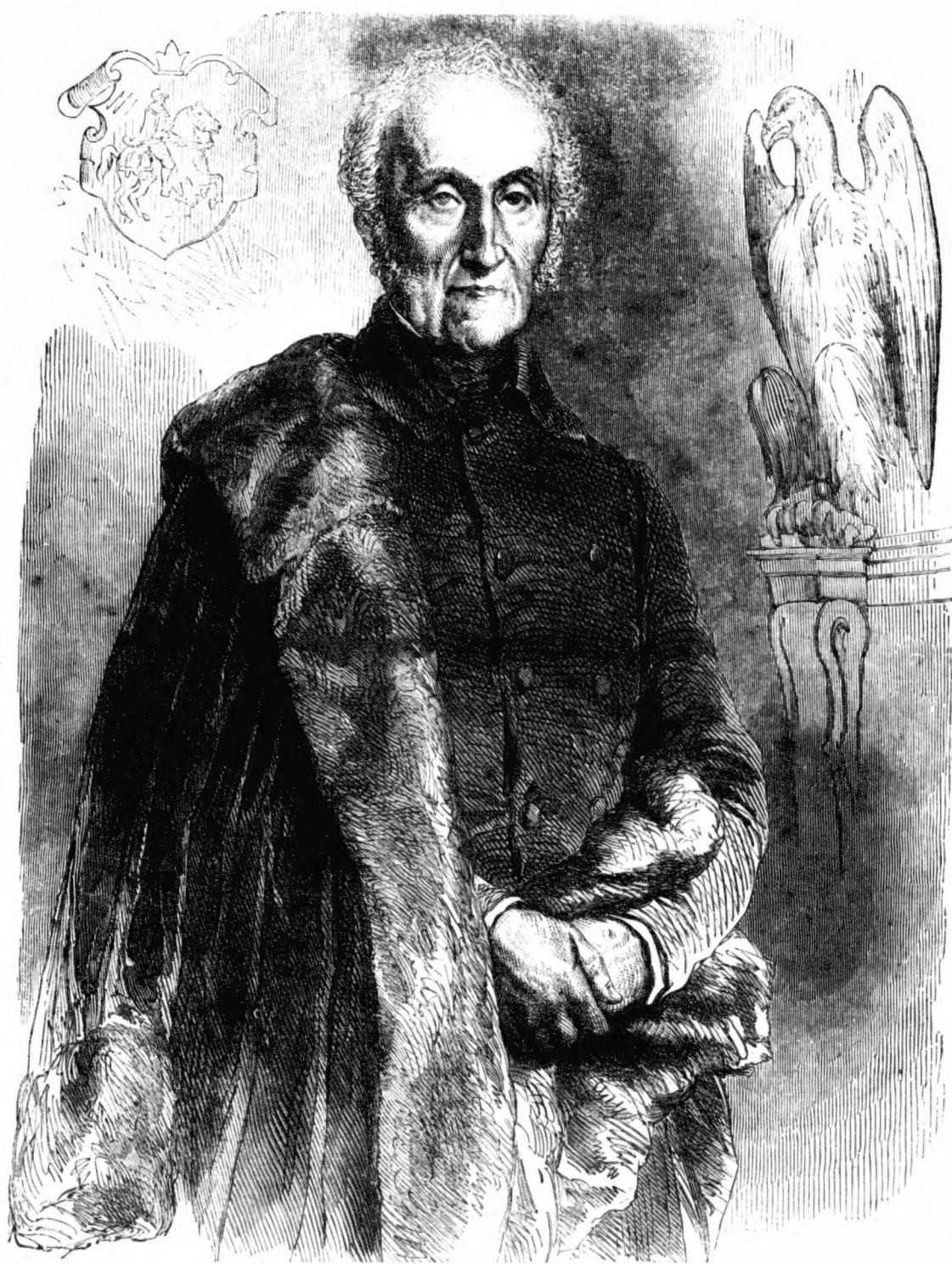
PRINCE CZARTORYSKI.

THE patriarch of political liberty in the present age has just passed away, and his loss will be felt by his sorrowing friends, not only on account of the large-hearted generosity which opened his purse to suffering, but because, at an age when most men are only remembered politically as already amongst the dead, his intellect remained vigorous and his judgment sound. He was essentially the representative of that real political liberty which is removed from the vulgar ambitions of the so-called demagogue, and yet believes in the patriotism which can raise a people above the necessity for any legislators but those of their own choosing.

Prince Adam Czartoryski, one of the race of the Jagellons, was born at Pulawy on the 14th of January, 1770, two years before the first dismemberment of Poland was accomplished, so that he seemed to be destined to follow the fortunes of his country through nearly a century of misrule, and inherited the family traditions which represented his race as being devoted to the national cause. Princes Michel and Auguste, the former his grandfather, the latter his granduncle, had taken the initiative in those reforms which, putting an end to internal divisions, counteracted the corrupting influences of foreign agents; and the young Adam inherited not only their name but the principles of legislation by which they were guided. After a complete course of education at Pulawy, he was at the age of eighteen sent into France, and thence to England, where he remained for about two years, pursuing his political studies in the school of Fox and Burke, who, by their example and tuition, contributed to develop the opinions of the young Prince.

On his return to Warsaw, at twenty years old, he was elected Deputy to the Diet, and commenced his political career, taking part in the triumph of that Constitution which was designed to regenerate Poland. Russia, however, could not remain inactive. Representing herself as the protectress of the old Constitution, she took possession of the country; while Prussia, who at first had allied herself to Poland, now joined herself to her old accomplices; and when the Poles remonstrated against this treason, they had to be satisfied with the "posteriora ligant," which made the reply of Frederick William III.

In the war which followed this invasion, the Prince served as Aide-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief in Lithuania, where he was greatly distinguished; but the unfortunate issue of the conflict obliged him to emigrate, together with the principal promoters of the Constitution, amongst whom was Kosciuszko, then but little known.



THE LATE PRINCE ADAM CZARTORYSKI — (FROM A PICTURE BY PAUL DE LA ROCHE)

Adam Czartoryski found an asylum in Italy. After the partition of Poland in 1795, the property of the Princes Czartoryski being confiscated, the Cabinet of Vienna interfered in their behalf, but Catherine required, as the condition of their reinstatement, that the two young men should come as hostages to St. Petersburg. Here, being attached as Aide-de-Camp to the Grand Duke Alexander, Adam Czartoryski exercised so great an influence on the young Prince that Paul I. sent him on a mission to Sardinia, from which he was recalled on the accession of his patron, who named him Minister of Foreign Affairs.

After the triumphal entry of Napoleon into Warsaw, and on the probable reform which then appeared to justify his retirement, the Prince ceased to occupy any legislative office, and contented himself with founding the University of Wilna. In 1814, however, he was named member of the Provisional Government of the Grand Duchy of Warsaw; and in the Congress of Vienna endeavoured to prevail on the Czar to reconstitute the kingdom of Poland with free institutions, under the sovereignty of Russia, but with a separate existence. Against this—the first step towards independence—the influence both of Austria and Prussia was exerted, and all he could procure was a clause which prevented the dismemberment of the country. As president of the conference which settled the Constitution of Cracow, he so excited the discontent of the Russians that they prevented his being named Viceroy of the Polish kingdom. From this time to the disastrous termination of the struggle for Polish freedom, in 1831, Adam Czartoryski devoted himself entirely to his country. As President of the Provisional Government of 1830, offering not only his services but half his property to the national cause, as a common soldier fighting in the ranks under General Romerino, this great and brave man never deserted the country to which he had devoted himself; and when he finally escaped to Paris, much impoverished and specially exiled, he still exerted himself, if he could not prevent, at least to alleviate by his beneficence, the sorrows of his countrymen, a work in which he has always been nobly supported by his wife, the Princess Anna Sapieha.

The Prince died on the 15th of July, and was buried at the Church of St. Louis en l'Île, Paris. It is said that the occasion of his funeral gave rise to an imposing popular ceremony at Moscow, the entire population attending the service in the Cathedral, where the Archdeacon officiated.

A remarkable document has appeared in several journals of Prussian Poland. It is said to have received the signature of the late Prince on



LONDON SKETCHES, NO. 9.—THE HALFPENNY BOAT.

the very eve of his demise, and is filled with judicious remarks on the state of Poland, and directions for conducting the affairs of the emigration. It concludes with the following remarkable passage:—

I thank God with humble gratitude that He permits me, after an age of anguish, to contemplate the dawn of the resurrection of my country. In the course of a long existence, I have acquired the conviction that in the hand of the Almighty has been heavy upon us, not for our ruin, but for our discipline. Let us, then, hope in His mercy, in the intercession of our heavenly Queen, and let each of our actions tend, not to a passing success, but to what may assure us an eternal triumph. Thy will be done, oh merciful and Almighty God!

A. CZARTORYSKI.

On Monday morning a solemn requiem mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. Dr. McGuire, Canon Theologian, at the Catholic Chapel, Sutton-street, Soho, for the repose of the soul of Prince Adam Czartoryski. The interior of the chapel was hung with black drapery, and a splendid catafalque erected, on which appeared the arms of the Prince, being the same as those of the Grand Duke of Lithuania. The service was attended by a large number of Poles and other persons, mostly attired in mourning. Later in the day a meeting of the Polish Historical Society (of which the lamented Prince was a patron) took place at Sussex Chambers, Duke-street, St. James's, to pay a tribute of respect to the memory of the departed, when, in the absence from London of Colonel Szyrna, the President, Major Sztetkowski, as Vice-President, occupied the chair, and delivered a long eulogium on the interesting and distinguished life of his illustrious countryman.

THE BOAT OF ALL-WORK.

It didn't rain "cats and dogs" nor "pitchforks;" it simply rained very hard, indeed; likewise it blew very hard; and, having doubts about the stability of the ribs of my umbrella, I turned into a little archway in the Strand to wait till the bluster abated a bit. Though narrow, it was a deep archway—so deep that vision was hauled by the gloom that crept up from the latter end of it, wherever that might be. There was shelter for fifty people at least; and, standing there alone, I could not help thinking what simpletons the drenched pedestrians were not to do as I was doing.

"Now, Sir, the boat!"

Full tilt against the notion that I had the archway all to myself, the observation rather startled me; but, finding that it emanated from no more formidable individual than a wizened old fellow in an overwhelming tarpaulin coat and a son's-wester with ear-lappets, I at once recovered my self-possession, and addressed the lunatic "Which boat, my friend? what about a boat?"

"Every quarter 'our, and it's just up, if you're again," issued from between the monstrous ear-lappets. Then, seeing that I was still somewhat perplexed, he goodnaturedly explained. "The Perseverance and the Grasshopper, and them—the 'apenny boats, don't you know? Down here takes you to 'em."

Down there? Absurd! My first impression was the correct one. The poor old gentleman was deranged. Some ancient waterman, once jolly and young, but ousted from his occupation by steam-boats, and devoting the remnant of his life to the burking of his enemy's adherents. Gazing awfully down the murky, vaulted lane into which the villain had endeavoured to entice me, I pondered for a moment on my lucky escape, and then, casting up my eyes thankfully, saw—

Saw that I had been shamefully unjust to the little man in tarpaulin. This was the road to the halfpenny steam-boat pier; a board at the entrance to the cavern announced it, and, that no mistake might occur, furnished a painted hand, with a finger pointing spectrally into the impenetrable gloom. I no longer regarded the old man as a dangerous enemy but as a true friend. Thanks to the weak ribs of my umbrella in the first place, and him in the second, there was about to be elucidated a mystery that had troubled me for years.

So many years, indeed, is it since the matter began to trouble me that I was still so small a boy as to be unable to look over a bridge without climbing to one of the recess seats. So elevated, many a time have I watched the plain, low-squatting steam-boats in question, ever dingy, ever slow, ever freighted with men who wore shabby jackets and who smoked short pipes, and by women just so lip-laden, and who wore cast-off coachmen's coats in the winter, and silk pocket-handkerchiefs on their shoulders, and inverted bonnets on their heads, in the summer. Strewn about the decks of the boats, invariably, were big bags of old clothes and boots and shoes, and pyramids of sealy humpers bursting with soles and other fish, and baskets full of oranges and all sorts of nuts.

Of course there was nothing mysterious—nothing remarkable, even—in all this; but what *was* remarkable (without doubt, it would occur to a child sooner than to a man) was the air of *drudgery* that pervaded the length and breadth of the vessel. On working days it is, of course, the rule to find the bees of the world's hive wearing business airs as well as business garments, but work is by no means incompatible with cheerfulness. Moreover, public conveyances are regarded as mediums of pleasure as well as business, or why does the 'bus-driver wear a rose at his buttonhole, or steam-boat captains indulge in cigars when a pipe of humble birdseye would afford them as much gratification and at a much cheaper rate? Why is the scraping of fiddles, the twanging of harps, and the dulcet notes of concertinas allowed on board steamers that ply between the bridges, if the proprietors are not aware that idle, aimless pleasure-seekers comprise a fair percentage of their passengers?

On board the Perseverance and the Grasshopper, however, things are managed very differently. No harp and violin, no cigar-smoking captain, no busy vendors of "comic broadsheets;" all dull, and dreary, and weary-looking, as men are when unremuneratively "hard at it." For all that the "captain" looks like one, he might be a hardworking lighterman recently pressed into the service; and as he pensively rests his big, hairy arms on the pipe through which he converses with the sooty man who, buried in the bowels of the vessel, feeds the roaring fire and tends the engine, you might fancy him pining for a haul at a pair of stout barge-oars. As for the passengers, they are either going to market and full of anxious wonder how they will "find things," and how far their bit of money will go, or else they are returning from market, and, having made good bargains, full of business anxiety to get home and realise; or, not seeing their way very clearly in the matter of their recent purchase, plunged in a slough of arithmetic, and endeavouring to extricate themselves by hideous contortions of countenance and by all sorts of nervous outspreadings and handlings of their dirty fingers and thumbs—it being no uncommon thing when the numbers by reason of their exceeding to become embarrassing for a man to borrow a digit or so of his neighbour, or for himself to mark farthings and fractions with a bit of chalk on his various knuckles. The good ship, meanwhile, as though conscious of the dead weight of work—of the sweating and bone-grinding for bread ever burdening her—seems to have altogether lost her spirits and the buoyancy natural to the boat tribe, and to have settled down a hard-working cobbler (no, not a cobbler; cobbler's whistles at their work and play skittles on Mondays), a hard-working tailor of a steamer, bending low at its work and content to lag from morning till night for the small consideration of a boiler full of water and an occasional feed of coal.

The melancholy aspect of the business alone at first occurred to me; its wonderful feature did not strike me for some time; when it did, this was it. The Perseverance and the Grasshopper, and one or two other drudges of the same family, were ever busy, ever humbly wriggling their way with their heads to the east or to the west; but whither were they bound? At what point on the Thames coast did the fish and fruit mongers take ship, and where did they disembark? My inquiries on the subject led to nothing definite. I learnt that the "apenny" ones owned but two piers on the river, and that one of them was "near Hungerford," and the other "just a stone's

throw from London-bridge." So instructed, I have sought diligently for the places in question, but never could discover them. About London-bridge were steam-boat piers enough; but the cheapest of them had the fare—one penny—so conspicuously displayed as to make inquiry mere impertinence; "near Hungerford" my explorations were equally diligent and equally fruitless. Having so far explained the business, the reader will the better understand the pleasure it gave me to find myself fairly on the track of the mysterious vessels.

Adopting the guidance of the spectral finger, I plunged into the gloomy alley, but, alas! speedily wished myself in the open Strand again; for, by-and-by, tiring of the length of the dismal lane, and fearing that I had mistaken the road, I turned off into the first opening that presented itself, and I went blundering on till I found myself involved in that horrid vaulted maze formed by the "dark arches" of the Adelphi. There, looming through the foul murk that enveloped the dreadful place, were the carts and waggon on which slept till ousted by the police the tramps and the houseless beggars. In sly nooks and corners were little heaps of straw and tan where the "regular" dark-arch lodgers slept. Here and there upon the arch-walls were green brands left by the river at its last rising, and more than once the squeaking and scrambling of rats was plainly audible. Thankful was I presently to arrive at a gap between the arches where the blessed light of day shone down, and there I resolved to wait till somebody happened to pass, and of whom I could inquire a way out of the pretty pickle I had got into.

I had not to wait long. First came the footsteps and voices, and then the forms of a troop of men and women with fish-baskets and fruit-baskets, and crockery such as is bartered for old clothes from door to door. "Pray," asked I of a man who, having but a little load of fish, could afford to pause for a moment, "Pray, is this the way to the halfpenny steam-boat?"

"Well, this is one way," replied he. "This is the way we coves comes, 'cos it's a near cut. 'Spectable coves, like you, comes down Ivy Bridge-lane, side of the clockshop in the Strand. 'Howsomever, 'taint worth while to go back. You keep straight down, and turn to the left, and you'll get to where they takes the 'apence."

Following his injunctions, I finally arrived at a mite of a public-house propped, as it were, on stilts out of the river mud, and embowered in some sort of verdant mass that probably was ivy, but it was so enveloped in the substantial fog peculiar to certain parts of the Thames shore that I could not see very distinctly. I could just make out the sign of the house, however. It was the "Fox under the Hill."

Nearly opposite to the Fox was the hutch where sat the man who took the steam-boat halfpence. If the business stirring that morning might be taken as a fair sample of halfpenny steam-boat trading it might without hesitation be quoted as "brisk." It quite dazzled the sight to watch the dirty paw of the cashier within the hutch ever darting like a nimble fine-legged spider at the halfpence pitched with that air of freedom that distinguishes the British costermonger on to the little board fronting the pigeon-hole. Likewise, if the passengers about to embark in the Endeavour represented a fair average, the charwomanish aspect of that worthy vessel at once ceased to be wonderful. Starting on the service in the most cheery way, and with every plack and spur about her as lithe and elastic as the sole use of ash and yew could render them, a score of trips could not fail to bring her to her knees, spiritless and jaded as the most elderly "slop hand" in the employ of those celebrated merchant "clippers"—A 1, and copper-hearted—Noses and Sons.

As I expected, I found no nonsense on board the Endeavour. The fittings were painted an appropriate lead colour; the forms were square, thick-legged, and substantial; no absurd caution decorated the base of the funnel concerning the impropriety of smoking abaft it; while as for any announcement advising you to abstain from conversation with the man at the wheel, it was rendered quite unnecessary by the sullen and melancholy that characterised the steersman's purple visage. Looking down into the engine-room, you at once saw that the frivolities of rottenstone and polishing rags were despised. The Endeavour's engine, as the stoker who came up for a moment's breath of fresh air informed me, was meant for work, not to be laughed at by old women and bunksins from the country, when I mentioned to him the fact that the day before I had seen on board a puny boat the engine rods and valves lustrous as plate-glass, and wearing in a handy clink a sprig of sweetwilliam, as a well-got-up and ponderous swell might wear a flower in his coat buttonhole. The stoker growled a derisive laugh, and remarked that he expected soon to see the captains of "they boats a wearing of cocked-hats, and the callboys with welwet tights and calves."

To return, however, to the passengers. There were big, brawny men, with their garments spangled with the stale scales of fish, and wearing broadwise deep baskets likewise scaly, but speckled red yesterday's strawberries, the owners, as it will happen when there is "nothing at the gate" (Billingsgate), being driven from his customary fishy path to invest his market-money at the "garden" (Covent-garden). There were big, brawny women, with great baskets, bound for Shorter street, Spitalfields, the chief mart for all sorts of flawed and damaged crockery, to be bartered for "old clo!" "Old clo!" made its appearance in tremendous quantities in casks, and bags, and bundles, from the fashionable bonnet shapelessly crushed, but still brilliant, to mildewed castors, boots, and slippers dancing-shoes. Beside the blousy and freckled traffickers in these and other sorts of goods, there were others scores of them, who surely had no money to take to market, nothing to buy, nothing to sell, but who, tattered, torn, and hungry, were bound to the docks or thereabouts to see if a job might be picked up. Being hungry, say you, why not avoid the luxury of riding and tramp it afoot, comforting the belly with a little bread the while? Because, after calculations as profound as those of men who buy and sell money as though it were taken in nets at sea, or who dabble up to their chins—in up to the very steps, and over and above the chimneys of their Brompton villas—in tallow or palm oil; because, having pondered on their empty condition, and on the inability of man to hoist and carry huge weights when foot-weary as well as empty, they resolve that to part with the precious halfpenny is to be a gainer; or, perhaps, having regarded the approaching dissolution of their patch-fretted boots, it is evident economy to ride in a steam-boat at the rate of a farthing a mile.

J. G.

FORESTERS' FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Foresters have this week had a grand fete at the Crystal Palace. On Tuesday morning, long before the hour appointed for the first trains to leave the London-bridge terminus, the platform of the London and Brighton Railway was crowded with Foresters and their friends anxious to proceed to the scene of festivity. The first trains started at about eight o'clock, from which hour the trains continued running without intermission, both from the London bridge and Victoria Stations, each being crowded almost to suffocation. The road to the palace from the Elephant and Castle presented an equally animated appearance, being crowded with vehicles of every description, filled with those who preferred the excitement and pleasure of the road to the crushing and discomfort of the overcrowded trains. Up to twelve o'clock it was computed that 10,000 persons had entered the palace and grounds, and crowds were then pouring in from all quarters; indeed, the London sections of the Foresters were only just beginning to make their appearance. At one o'clock a general procession of the brethren of the order took place, headed by several bands of music, the officers of the order wearing their regalia. Immediately after the termination of the procession the various sports and pastimes of the day commenced, and were entered into with great spirit by the immense concourse of persons assembled.

BISHOPRIC OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.—A new bishopric of these islands has just been created, and the Rev. Thomas Northcote Staley, M.A., of Queen's College, Cambridge, appointed to the new see.

A ZEALOUS CONSERVATIVE is stated to have travelled 160 miles to vote for T. Harmer at the South London election, and on a large Liverpool found he had been taking very unnecessary trouble. His friends had paired him off with a Liberal.

CONCERTS.

It has been an occasional custom attending the system of promenade concerts to devote certain nights to certain composers. One very great thing to be said for these festivals is that there is positively nothing to be said against them. Another and a hardly less cogent plea in their favour is that the public appear to like them exceedingly. A Handel night, a Mozart night, a Spohr night, a Haydn night, above all a Beethoven night, are sure to be lionised with bumpers. It is the proof of genius perfected by art that the music of an individual composer should thus have charms to soothe the worse than savage breast of popular taste, which, though partial, on the whole, to excellence, is yet more imperative in the matter of variety; and, while worthy to be classed among the mighty musicians we have named for the beauty and completeness of his works, Mendelssohn may almost claim precedence of them all for elasticity, breadth, and comprehensiveness of character. Allegro and pensive, playfulness and profundity, fanciful conceit and solemn grandeur are extremes which he touches with a frequency not common with even the greatest masters. The programme of Mr. Mellon's concert on Monday evening last at Covent Garden was as diversified as if it comprised selections from the works of many composers, instead of being principally made up of the productions of one hand. The "Midsummer Night's Dream," though pervaded by one colouring idea, is as full of changes from light to shadow as fairyland itself. Much of the richness of expression is no doubt attributable to the fact that, written in the fervour of boyish inspiration, the work was amplified and freshly adorned by the mature hand of Mendelssohn in after years. The concert began with the exquisitely graceful overture to this musical poem. It was followed by the "Scherzo," the "Intermezzo," the "Nocturno," and the "Wedding March," all of which selections were admirably given, and listened to with general delight. Of course the "Wedding March" was encored. Following rather closely upon the jubilant music of the "Midsummer Night's Dream," as culminating in this magnificent song of triumph, the recitative and aria, "But the Lord is mindful of his own," from the oratorio, "St. Paul," was given by Mdlle. Laura Baxter with much expressive earnestness and force. M. Sainton performed with all his command of tone the famous violin concerto. The charming duet, "Now here, now there," from "Son and Stranger" was sung by Mdlle. Parepa and Mdlle. Laura Baxter; and the fine overture to "Ruy Blas" concluded the Mendelssohn selection.

Except a concert on Saturday at the Crystal Palace, of average merit, supported by the artists we have just named, there has been no other musical event since we last had the pleasure of addressing our readers. The Crystal Palace directors do well to make music a continued attraction. On Saturday the audience, always remarkable for its proportion of pretty faces, received a considerable accession in this important respect from the circumstance of a day's excursion, and a handsome dinner being given by the Electric Telegraph Company to the young ladies who perform so expertly the duties of the several offices.

Though not strictly a musical topic, we shall commit no inhumane act by bringing Mr. and Mrs. Howard Paul's entertainment into our category of concerts. This clever pair of performers opened a short season on our account at the Strand Theatre on Monday. A new extravaganza, written in a nut-shell compass, was added to the stock attraction of character-sketches and graphic songs. Mr. and Mrs. Paul, who respectively impersonated the Earl of Leicester and Queen Elizabeth in this bagatelle, were assisted by Miss Jenny Taylor, in the semblance of Sir Walter Raleigh. Mrs. Paul's imitation of Mr. Sims Reeves continues to astonish audiences. Her singing of the air, "My own, my guiding star," from "Robin Hood," is yet more wonderful in its approximation to the reality than the eternal "Come into the garden, Maud." That subdued manner which Mr. Reeves occasionally carries almost to the confines of languor is travestied with great skill. We are sorry to see in a flyleaf of Mr. Howard Paul's synopsis of the entertainment a notice written in a tone of bad reasoning and worse taste. The public is informed by Mr. Paul that Mr. Sims Reeves does not relish the mimicry of his voice and style; and on this piece of perfectly uncalculated intelligence Mr. Paul proceeds to build up a theory that an exact imitation is a positive kindness to the person imitated, while a caricature alone can give a legitimate ground of offence. To our understanding the case is exactly reversed; but this is not a question we should have raised in reference to Mrs. Paul's mimicry, which we must beg to assure Mr. Paul, is a caricature. His proposition that it is an exact copy or transcript presupposes that Mrs. Paul, as an executant, is on a par with Mr. Sims Reeves, which is utterly absurd. Though it may not require the genius of a great painter to reproduce any of his works, it does, at least, call for a corresponding amount of technical skill; and in the same way a singer who, without power to originate any of the beauties which characterise a great artist's vocalisation, can yet pretend to follow him with an almost deceptive closeness, must be a rather finished musician. Mrs. Paul is very clever; her burlesque of Mr. Sims Reeves is amusing, and may be specially remarked for the incidental phenomenon of a sustained masculine quality of tone; but, surely, not even her husband ventures to claim for her the reputation of an accomplished musical artist. Should he surprise us by doing so, however, we might meet his assertion with the old Italian saying, applied for the nonce to Mrs. Howard Paul, "She has the thousandth part of a singer—she has a good voice."

BLONDIN.

THE ever-watchful daily papers, including the *Times* and *Telegraph*, who lose few opportunities of noticing the exploits of the "hero of Niagara," omitted somehow all mention of his first carrying a man on his back over the fountains on the Crystal Palace terrace. This feat was performed by M. Blondin about a fortnight ago, and in the presence of 20,000 persons. The silence of the press on the subject is accounted for by the fact that Blondin took even the general manager, Mr. Bowley, by surprise, having kept the secret of his intention from everybody except the faithful follower who is accustomed to risk his neck by clinging round M. Blondin's, and who has been called that gentleman's "agent," we presume by some etymological confusion of the term with its converse, "patient."

On Wednesday the exciting act was repeated. Blondin, after a succession of gymnastic feats calling forth an immense display of strength and physical endurance, took up the Canadian attendant on his back, and bore him slowly and surely from the mast at the north end of the terrace to the central station. A rather good story is told by the *Daily Telegraph* of "Blondin's man." It appears that he has a confidence in his leader's strength and skill which nothing can shake. Hearing a conversation among a group of strangers arising from some speculative proposition as to what would occur if Blondin were to fall from the rope, the astonished Canadian put in these characteristic words, "Well, but you know he can't."

THE "FEMALE BLONDIN"—The deficiency in the arrangement of the rope across the Thames at Cremorne having been remedied, the "Blondin" made her second attempt on Monday, and on this occasion succeeded in accomplishing the feat she had undertaken. The daring equilibrist began her exhibition of skill an hour earlier than on the first occasion. She set off forth in the light of the declining sun, her prodigious dress and white pole gleaming resplendently. Her progress was rapid, the whole distance being traversed in seven minutes. She would not have been slow walking under ordinary conditions of road and of the journey was over beds of mud. If any larger of a fall existed, the results arising from such an accident would have been rendered much more serious by this circumstance.

GEORGE SMITH, condemned to death for the murder of his fellow-prisoner, was executed at the extreme point of the law, in presence of a considerable number of spectators, among whom the "Globe" is said to have been "dominated."

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—R. B. PENMAN, Milngavie, Perthshire, and Dundee, merchant.—A. CROOKER, Dumfries, druggist.—J. SNOW, Cumbernauld, Lanarkshire, grocer.—G. KELLY, Edin.

